

# Detroit Zen Center Residency

Founded in 1990, the Detroit Zen Center is an urban residential zen center and intentional community in Hamtramck, MI – a 2.5 square mile city-district that sits inside the center of Detroit. Hamtramck is home to 32 ethnic groups, is dense, walkable, and home to many artists, musicians, students, independently owned restaurants & businesses. The Detroit Zen Center has 3 buildings (the Zen Center meditation hall with a lower level kitchen/café; a 3-story residency; a corridor connecting the two). We have 2 green roofs, a front garden & a peace garden across the street. We are accepting applications for room rental, or skilled work exchange.

Our community consists of an Abbot & Vice-Abbot (Zen monks), Dharma students, members, & an array of friends & patrons. Our monastics split time living and teaching here, and at our Retreat Center in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. During their absence Dharma students run the Center.

The residency for students is adjacent to, but separate from the Zen Center and meditation hall -- a 3-story, 5-bedroom historic home that is well cared for and quite lovely. In the past, the residency housed full time zen apprentices; we are now transitioning the residency into a room rental house for members/students who wish to live in a community environment, have access to and limited obligations to the meditation schedule, and help take care of the Center. We will also reserve a room for short term guests for our Temple-Stay program seasonally. We have a retreat center in the Upper Peninsula as well.

Basic commitments for residency are:

- Fill out an application and meet with the Zen Center Director and other residents.
- Be clean & clear, personally, in communication, and in public spaces.
- Schedule commitments to the meditation hall are: Sunday morning meditation hall cleaning & public meditation from 8-10:30am (unless work obligations interfere); Wednesday & Friday morning meditation practice from 6-7am (unless there are work obligations). Other meditations and talks/retreats are available to residents as well as their schedules allow.
- Have financial stability -- monthly rent is \$500-700 (depending on the room; includes a private room, basic membership to the Zen Center, wifi, laundry, utilities).
- Agree to a minimum 3 month stay, renewable.
- No pets are allowed; there is a cat here already!
- Attend the house cleaning/meeting each week. If work commitments interfere, to make arrangements.
- Be willing to help out with additional Zen Center stewardships as your schedule may allow (composting, recycling, maintenance, gardening, weeding, etc.) to be discussed beforehand with the Director.

Residents have access to:

- The full schedule of meditation, talks, etc. (residency includes membership)
- Retreats, classes, workshops, etc. with a member discount
- On-site laundry & a full private kitchen (with a blender, stove/oven, refrigerator, etc.)
- A shared bathroom for men; a shared bathroom for women
- A corner front garden; a peace garden across the street with benches & paths; a green roof with paths and seating on top of the meditation hall

- Common areas on the main floor (kitchen, living room, dining room, front porch).
- Private entrance to the residency (separate from the Zen Center entrance).
- Street parking
- Recycling/composting on-site (sustainability is a key part of our mission)
- A meat-free kitchen & facility

Further Details:

- Residency can be a first step toward full time apprenticeship as a zen student, or dharma work-exchange program
- We are open to rent exchange for qualified applicants who may wish to serve as a residency manager/building maintenance worker.

We welcome all forms of human beings at the Detroit Zen Center. We work to create a welcoming environment. The vision for the residency is to house lay zen meditation practitioners who are looking to balance work-life-practice in a sustainable, intentional community environment, under the open-handed guidance of the monastics and dharma students. The Detroit Zen Center is a 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1990.