

KANSAS STATE OXFORD HOUSE RE-ENTRY COMMITTEE

What is an Oxford House?

An Oxford House is an affordable, alcohol and drug-free living environment for individuals in recovery from alcoholism and/or drug addiction. All Oxford Houses have common characteristics:

- Each house is democratically self-run by the members
- Each house is financially self-supporting, responsible for all household expenses
- Each house must expel any member who returns to using drugs or alcohol

Are there any requirements to live in an Oxford House?

1) No drinking or using, 2) Pay your EES (Equal Expense Share), 3) No disruptive behavior. Past experience with the first Oxford House proved that expelling the member that returned to alcohol or drugs no matter how briefly will protect the house for the other members. If a member relapses on drugs or alcohol, he/she will be asked to leave immediately. The individual can make arrangements with the house to get his/her personal belongings within a reasonable time frame. The house may choose to notify the Community Correction Officer that the individual no longer lives at the house and state the reason why.

You will be required to pay the house \$500 before move-in. EES varies with each house but the average is about \$100 per week with a non-refundable \$200 move-in fee. Each house will be different. The \$500 is a state wide general payment and will be applied according to the particular houses guideline. If and when you are accepted into a house, you will be notified how much that houses EES and move-in costs are. *EES covers all utilities and phone.* (Again, each house varies, but most houses include cable TV, laundry soap, paper towels, toilet paper, coffee, and so on).

Disruptive behavior can encompass many things, but the bottom line is if an individual's behavior is a disruption to the normal flow of house operations, than that will be considered disruptive. Violence and the threat of violence will be dealt with by the house and treated as a relapse and the person involved will be asked to leave, in most cases, immediately.

Things to do while you are incarcerated:

Oxford Houses main goal is to provide self-sufficient, affordable housing for individuals recovering from alcohol and/or drug addiction. Oxford House is not a treatment facility. Therefore, Oxford House recognizes most forms of abuse treatment, and the 12-step programs of Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and other 12-step groups. There are ways for you, the incarcerated, to start work on these things now. We receive too many applications to process and accept all who apply; it is those individuals who are currently working on their recovery from addictions that will receive the higher priority to get into an Oxford House.

More hoops to jump:

There are special requirements to be an Oxford House member when using the Re-Entry process. Due to past experiences, we ask that you pay your EES before move-in. This accomplishes two things: one, your placement in an Oxford House is guaranteed and two, it protects the house financially. If you do not show up on the day and time designated, if you move on from Oxford House within the first month, relapse, or pose any threat to the house, you will forfeit all money paid to the house for that first month.

You will be on a restrictive probationary period (depending on the house). This would include going to a pre-determined number of 12-step meetings, getting a sponsor, and a possible lowered curfew time. This probation will differ from house to house, but expect to be on a limited probation period until the house gets comfortable with you and you get comfortable with the house. After the initial month, you will become a member of the house and have all privileges granted the other house members.

Due to unplanned turn-over in Oxford House and the length of time it takes to get released, there may not be a bed available at the house when the person is released. Therefore, the house will guarantee that you will have at least a couch to sleep on until a bed becomes available or you get an interview with another house that has available bed space. *Don't worry about this.* At most you'd end up being placed on a couch only a few days as the process to get into an Oxford House is fairly quick.

I might go to Work Release, should I apply anyway?

Please do not apply if you are going to a work release program. If you plan on going to work release, please do not apply now. You will have many opportunities to apply for an Oxford House once you are at your work release center. The application you fill out now will have to be completed again. The process is much easier and acceptance is much greater when you are there. *Again, please do not apply if you are going to a work release program.* This will simply slow down our volunteer workers with helping another alcoholic and/or addict get into a house that does not have a work release option.

What happens if I can't get the move-in costs?

There are many resources out there other than the Department of Corrections. We have found that if an individual really wants to get into an Oxford House, he/she will use whatever resource to come up with funds. If D.O.C. does not fund your housing transition and you do not have any family or friends to ask, we suggest you try churches or other non-profit organizations. We have seen many inmates get funding through these types of resources.

What if I don't get accepted using the Re-Entry project?

If for whatever reason you don't make it through this process, it is easier to get into a house when you are released. Some houses will allow you to move in before you have the full amount of the move in costs. If you think you are unable to get funding for Oxford House while in prison, be sure to contact us once you are released because you will find it is simpler to get accepted into one of the houses and your chances of staying clean and sober are much greater with the peer support of an Oxford House.

Where do I mail the completed application and Questionnaire?

In order to be considered for this program, potential candidates must download and fill out the Oxford House Membership Application AND Oxford House Kansas Re-Entry Questionnaire. Once both forms are completed, they will need to be mailed to one of the following Contacts:

MALE APPLICATIONS:

Western Kansas locations (Including Wichita):

Dan Hahn
1333 Dunsworth
Wichita, KS 67212

Eastern Kansas locations:

Chuck Liston
8809 W. 118 Street
Overland Park, KS 66210

FEMALE APPLICATIONS:

Misty Miner
2003 Rita St.
Wichita, KS 67213

HOUSES PARTICIPATING IN RE-ENTRY PROGRAM

Wichita

Oxford House Braeburn
Oxford House College Hill
Oxford House Pawnee
Oxford House Rita (Women's)

Overland Park

Oxford House Hardy
Oxford House Slater

Kansas City KS

Oxford House Pitkin

