

Temporary Sponsorship

“All those willing to be a Temporary Sponsor, please raise your hand.”

Temporary Sponsorship is a voluntary commitment to walk a newcomer through their first steps in our Program. A temporary sponsor guides a newcomer through the program as they have been guided by their sponsor.

Expectations, including time-frame and boundaries, should be discussed and agreed upon between both individuals before work begins. Temporary sponsorships are generally limited to 30-90 days, at which point a long-term sponsor is sought. However, it is not uncommon for a temporary sponsorship to naturally evolve into a long-term sponsorship.

Suggested Prerequisites for the Temporary Sponsor

Those thinking of offering temporary sponsorship should be:

- Currently working the 12 Steps with a sponsor.
 - Step 5 is a good point to begin temporary sponsor work.
- Contacting their own sponsor on a regular basis.
- Currently six months or more abstinent from inner circle behaviors.
- Open and receptive to calls from the newcomer.

Responsibilities of the Temporary Sponsor

- Offer contact information to the newcomer.
- Encourage the newcomer to continue to attend meetings.
- Encourage the newcomer to contact you daily.
- Guide the newcomer to the Green Book and towards working the Steps.
- Assist the newcomer in defining their sobriety; work through the Three Circles.
- Ultimately, connect the newcomer with a long-term sponsor.

A temporary sponsor is not the same as long-term sponsor but it can be very rewarding. Sadly, only a low-percentage of newcomers are able to commit to working the program with their temporary sponsor. This should not be taken personally and, in fact, makes Temporary Sponsorship a low-risk, high reward opportunity in which both individuals are offered a chance to grow in their recovery.

Please, consider raising a hand at the end of your next meeting. There is a lot to be gained through Temporary Sponsorship.