

What It Means To Be The Tsegyalgar East Geko

“Geko” is the keeper of the Gar, therefore he/she is entrusted with many important responsibilities at Tsegyalgar East and Khandroling. The Tsegyalgar East Geko welcomes guests, leads guided tours of the properties, and oversees and participates in the cleaning and maintenance of all structures and properties that belong to the Gar. He/she collaborates with the Gakyil and the Community in different activities, and ensures that the facilities and grounds are well cared for.

“Geko” is the “custodian of virtue”; he/she is responsible for ensuring that nobody in the Gar violates laws (for example, not allowing visitors from other countries without a visa to stay overnight, making sure that nobody camps on the land without permission, or makes use of illegal substances, or commits any kind of violence). The Geko is also responsible for maintaining a safe environment, and for instructing guests on how to maintain a safe environment, and avoid potential hazards such as camp fires, etc.

The person who presents him/herself as a geko candidate should be able to commit for at least one year and up to a limit of three years. He/she must have infinite patience and perseverance, and welcome and collaborate with many people. He/she must have the ability to work in the United States without sponsorship, must speak English (additional languages are a plus), must have a valid driver’s license, their own vehicle, and be able to use the basic office computer programs.

Whoever applies to be the Tsegyalgar East Geko should already be a member of the Dzogchen Community for at least three years, and have the ability to perform daily manual labor. Maintenance and building experience are a plus.

The Tsegyalgar East Geko receives free lodging at the Schoolhouse in Conway, MA and a small stipend and benefits. The job description is at the bottom of this page.

Prospective applicants apply by emailing their resume and a cover letter that explains their interest in the position and highlights their qualifications to the following address: gakyil@tsegyalgar.org. International applicants should be aware a US Green Card is required.

The application procedure for selecting the Tsegyalgar East Geko includes an interview with the Gakyil, that is conducted either in person or online.

Tsegyalgar East Geko Job Description Specific Requirements

1. Confers with the Master and his family (or any other master visiting Tsegyalgar) during their stay. Reports to the Gakyil any specific requests made by the Master and his family during their stay.
2. The Tsegyalgar East Geko welcomes all visitors to the gar, especially during festivities and/or when the office is closed, and gives visitor tours and information about the Dzogchen Community.
3. He/She handles reservations for use of dormitory and retreat cabins and receives payment for them.
4. The Geko manages property/facility related Karma Yoga activities at the Gar. Collaborates with Red and Blue Gakyil to organize these activities.
5. Takes care of on-site organization of Ganapujas. Prepares part of the offerings. Cares for participants, and ensures that everyone participates in cleaning the Gonpa after all practices.
6. Oversees custodial duties of properties/facilities. Collaborates with Red and Blue Gakyil to coordinate Karma Yoga participants during events, courses, and retreats, and participates in the preparation and cleaning of the properties/facilities.
7. Collaborates actively with the Gakyil, secretary, contractors hired by the Gakyil, team leaders, and all the Karma Yogis who collaborate for the successful outcome of all of Tsegyalgar's activities.
8. Receives contractors'/vendors' supplies, goods and services.
9. Supervises, coordinates, and participates in the maintenance of Schoolhouse, Gonpa, Dormitory, Vajra Hall, and all Cabins.
10. Reports at all formal Gakyil meetings.