

State Youth Religious Awards Program

Purpose To promote and encourage children and youth to further study and apply the Jodo Shinshu teachings to their lives. It is a part of the Sunday School program as an extra-curricular activity.

Organization

1. SYRAP (State Youth Religious Awards Program)

- a. Under the Office of Buddhist Education, Director of Buddhist Education
- b. Obtains operating funds from the Legislative Assembly through the Office of Buddhist Education
- c. Responsible for the organization and function of the SYRAP policies in Hawaii
- d. Supplies and recommends books, handbooks, and other materials used in class
- e. The State Youth Specialist shall maintain and issue certificates and awards

2. Board of Review (arranged by the SYRAP Coordinator)

***Optional**

- a. The SYRAP Coordinator shall organize the members of the Board of Review. The board of review will be comprised of 3 people:
 - i. A Minister
 - ii. A Sunday School teacher or the Youth Religious Awards instructor
 - iii. A District Buddhist Education Committee member (Minister or Lay)
- b. The SYRAP Coordinator decides on the place and time of the Board of Review
- c. The SYRAP Coordinator submits to the Director of Buddhist Education the names, addresses, and phone numbers of the Board of Review members and the youth eligible for review at least one month before the Board of review takes place.

3. Minister

The Minister shall be the overseer and consultant if he or she is not the instructor. The Minister has the final authority and responsibility in regards to:

- a. Concern of the student's progress in the program
- b. Over the SYRAP program at the local Temple
- c. For arranging for class instructors

4. SYRAP Coordinator

The SYRAP Coordinator is the liaison between the Director of Buddhist Education and the local Temple and is within the Sunday School program at the temple. All materials from the Director of Buddhist Education will be sent to the Coordinator, therefore, if the Coordinator is a layperson, he or she must work

closely with the minister and distribute materials to the instructors. The Coordinator shall also arrange for the Board of Review should a need arise.

5. Instructor (Minister or Layperson)

An Instructor can be anyone who sincerely wants to spread the Jodo Shinshu teachings to young people. The Instructor shall check on the student's progress and understanding of the teachings. Final authority and responsibility will be with the minister.

Role -

Level I

The Instructor may be a parent, minister, Sunday School teacher, or a volunteer who guides and assists the child to attain the Level I objectives and obtains materials from the SYRAP Coordinator and distributes the material to the students.

Level II and Level III

The Instructor helps with the development of the student's awareness of appreciation and application of the Jodo Shinshu teachings.