

ftg | Finding the Good

Traveling Semester Program

18441 Rainbow's End Rd Nevada City CA 95959 | 530.265.5490 | learnmore@findingthegood.org | www.findingthegood.org

Welcome to Finding the Good - a traveling semester program based on the study, practice and promotion of sustainability. Accepted students will be exploring working models in the areas of shelter, transportation, energy, food, culture and environmental conservation. Our students reflect our diverse society, and applications for admission are conducted on a case by case basis. We look forward to hearing from you!

2014 Fall Semester August 30th - December 20th

Cost: \$12,000 per semester (Financial Aid available - please see Admissions Information)

Applicant Information

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____ Email: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____

School/College Information

During the Fall 2014 semester I will be: (check, and complete, as appropriate):

A High School Student

Current School: _____ Current Grade: _____

School Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

A Gap Year Student - with deferred entry into college

Deferring From: _____

College Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

A Gap Year Student - without deferred entry

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Family Information

First Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Relationship To You: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Second Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Relationship To You: _____ Email: _____

Address (if different than above): _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

For the essay sections below please answer all questions on a separate sheet of paper and use as much space as necessary to fully complete your response. Answers can be typed or written in clear handwriting.

Essay Section: Part 1

Choose TWO of the 7 questions below. Please write at least two paragraphs for each of your choices.

1. Describe a situation in which you have dealt with adversity: a time when you needed real courage.
2. What concerns do you have about entering the world as a young adult?
3. If you could change one thing about yourself (not your body) what would it be?
4. If you could do anything with your life right now, what would it be?
5. What gift do you bring to the world?
6. If you were to come up with a thoughtful question for this application, what would the question be, and why do you think it would be a good one to ask Finding the Good applicants?

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Essay Section: Part 2

Choose ONE of the six quotes below. Write at least two paragraphs; tell why you chose this quote and give your personal interpretation of it.

1. Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear—not absence of fear. Except a creature be part coward it is not a compliment to say it is brave... (Mark Twain)
2. Beauty nourishes our soul... It allows us to remember not only what is possible, what we are capable of creating as human beings, but what is necessary. (Terry Tempest Williams)
3. The important thing is this: to be ready, at any moment, to sacrifice what you are for what you could become. (Charles Dubois)
4. Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. (Rachel Carson)
5. Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it. (Goethe)
6. Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power. (Abraham Lincoln)

Essay Section: Part 3

During the Finding the Good semester, students live closely with their peers and study subjects that effect us all. Subject interest within the group will, in large measure, guide what we study throughout the semester. This is an empowering experience and it comes with responsibility. With this in mind, please respond to each of the questions below.

1. If accepted, what would be your contribution to the learning community?
2. What would you like to learn during a Finding the Good semester?
3. How do you foresee using your skills to help your own community after the semester is over?



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Recommendations

Attached to this application are two blank recommendation forms. We ask that one be completed by a current or former teacher and the other by someone that you consider a mentor who is not a family member (coach, music teacher, employer, etc).

Final Section

How did you first learn about Finding the Good? _____

Once complete, please mail or fax all of the components below. Please do not submit a partial application.

- 1 - The completed application form
2 - Parent/guardian section
3 - Responses to the essay sections
4 - Two completed recommendation forms

Mail: Finding the Good, 18441 Rainbows End Road, Nevada City, CA 95959

Fax: (530) 265 5490

Once we have received and reviewed all application material, the program director will schedule a phone interview to finalize the application process. Admission decisions are made on a case by case basis. Once accepted, a \$500 deposit will be required.

For more information please contact: learnmore@findingthegood.org or call us at (530) 265 5490.

By signing below, you demonstrate an understanding of the admissions process for Finding the Good, and have read, and agree with, the Admissions Information attached.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Application for Admission Parent/Guardian



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Parent/Guardian Statement

Please be candid and complete in your responses to the questions below. Use additional paper if necessary, and include with completed application form.

Why would you like your child to attend a Finding the Good semester program?

What would you like to see your child gain from this experience?

Please describe any special accommodations/needs that may be required in order for your child to fully participate in and enjoy his/her Finding the Good semester.

Finding the Good is not a therapeutic program. If your child is currently experiencing difficulty coping with normal academic and emotional challenges please contact us for a more in-depth discussion.

Application for Admission General



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General Information

When to Apply

At this time, there is no deadline for a Finding the Good semester, however, space is limited. We encourage you to complete this document in good time, allowing sufficient time to reflect upon and answer the questions to the best of your ability.

Admissions Criteria

Acceptance decisions are based on the answers you submit with your application and a phone interview with the program director.

Finding the Good Applicants Are...

- Students in their junior or senior year of high school during our semester program.
- Students who will be deferring entry into college to partake in our program during their 'gap-year'.
- Recent high school graduates looking to continue their education.

Finding the Good students are ready for a big step in their lives. They have a desire to find purpose and meaning in their lives, even if they don't have a clue as to how. They are ready to explore themselves in relation to the world. They are ready to develop and practice leadership. They are ready for an expanded relationship to freedom and responsibility.

General Information

When a student applies and is accepted to a Finding the Good semester, it is our hope that financial aid can be arranged. It is our wish that no student be prevented from attending this program for financial reasons. If scholarship money available to your family is insufficient for your child to attend, we are willing to arrange a suitable payment plan.

Please contact us at learnmore@findingthegood.org (530) 265 5490 for more information on financial aid and scholarship support.

Ethics & Conduct

Our code of ethics and conduct exists to provide a supportive learning community based on mutual respect and social responsibility.

Students who are accepted into the Finding the Good semester program will be issued a student handbook that covers our code of ethics and conduct extensively. Each participating student will be required to read through the handbook, sign their acknowledgment, and enter into a contract with Finding the Good.

Finding The Good admits students of any race, color, national origin, ethnic origin, creed and sexual orientation to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities made available at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ethnic origin, creed, or sexual orientation, in administration or its education policies, scholarship and loan programs, and other school-administered programs.

Application for Admission Teacher/Mentor
Recommendation 1



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Teacher/Mentor Recommendation Form

Applicant Name:

Dear teacher/mentor,

This student is in the process of applying for a semester with Finding the Good traveling semester program. Finding the Good is a 15-week program, for high school and gap year students, based on the study, practice and promotion of sustainability in the areas of transportation, energy, food, shelter, culture and environmental conservation. Students and faculty will travel to communities throughout California in a bio-diesel fueled van exploring, discovering, researching and documenting innovations in sustainable living. Students will make documentary films, podcasts, radio broadcasts and stage presentations to educate others on the solutions we need to live on the earth sustainability.

We realize that completing such a form is time consuming, and are extremely grateful for your time and effort in allowing us to better understand this applicant .

Please feel free to use additional paper to respond to the following.

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

2. Please comment on the applicant's academic ability and motivation, the quality of his/her work, and his/her academic potential.

Application for Admission Teacher/Mentor
Recommendation 1



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3. Finding the Good puts great emphasis on building a caring, supportive, diverse community based on respect and trust. Please comment on the student's character, integrity, and ability to teach and learn from others. How does the student relate to other persons?

4. Please provide us with any additional information that you think may be helpful for us in making a good admissions decision.

5. Finding the Good is not a therapeutic program. If you have reason to believe that the everyday challenges of an intensive live-in learning community would be overwhelming for this student, please comment below.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please submit this form in a sealed envelope to the student applicant.

For more information, please contact Finding the Good: learnmore@findingthegood.org (530) 265 5490

Application for Admission Teacher/Mentor
Recommendation 2



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3. Finding the Good puts great emphasis on building a caring, supportive, diverse community based on respect and trust. Please comment on the student's character, integrity, and ability to teach and learn from others. How does the student relate to other persons?

4. Please provide us with any additional information that you think may be helpful for us in making a good admissions decision.

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Application for Admission Teacher/Mentor
Recommendation 2



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Applicant Name:

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