# “Job Opening Advertisement For a Hindu Priest”

**Advertisement Posting Date: \_\_April 20, 2020\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Application Closing Date: \_\_September 30, 2020\_\_\_\_ or until Position is filled**

*The Hindu Society of North Carolina (HSNC)* invites applications for the position of a *Hindu Priest* for Triad Hindu Temple to perform daily poojas (rituals) at the temple and at the devotees’ residences as required. This position will be on contract basis only. Applications are accepted from interested priests only (not from any job hunter type agencies or other individuals).

HSNC is 501(c) (3) certified Non-Profit Religious Organization **established in year 1979.** Primarily, HSNC promotes Sanatana Dharma which includes a universal message of love, truth, non-violence, righteousness, peace and service (Seva), and worship. Temple is located at 2424 Huffine Mill Rd, McLeansville, 27301. Presently, HSNC temple worship services are performed to Murthis installed in the Mandir located on the same property. Prathisthapana of the Murthis was held in August 2009 and HSNC is currently planning to expand temple services and an area for social gathering.

Greensboro is located in the Piedmont Triad, an area of natural beauty, diverse Indian population, several education institutions, hospitals and government agencies. Triad has an estimated population of about 1.6 million people making it the 30th largest metropolitan area in the USA. Our Indian community is diverse with about 600 or more families. Temperature in the triad is pretty mild and it is a nice, affordable place to raise families. This is the only temple in the Triad in a radius of about 60 miles. Our temple premise is small, a prayer hall (capacity 140 people) with deities (see website for pictures), a small kitchen and an office. Currently, only limited priest services are provided at the temple on Sundays and other services are availed from temples in neighboring cities.

**Job Description:**

1. To meet temple community’s devotional and spiritual needs, the priest will be required to perform Hindu Vedic rituals / ceremonies and other priestly duties as approved by the management, at the temple and other places where the HSNC management requests to perform (Example: Other temples, Ashramas, devotee’s residence, business).
2. The Priest will be required to perform other administrative duties as assigned.
3. The job performance and life style should comply with accepted Hindu customs and traditions.
4. Always work in the best interests of community and Triad Hindu Temple. Be a calm, spiritual team member in addition to a lead priest. Work with temple committee amicably and create a positive experience for every devotee that visits the temple or utilizes services of priest at temple, devotees home or any other designated location.
5. Highly desirable: Priest is able to accommodate and attract devotees from North, South, East and West. Ability to cover for co-worker priest as needed to perform rituals and puja for all deities in temple.

**Qualification & Experience Requirements:**

1. Qualified as a Hindu priest in performing *Vaidika, Panchadasa Karmas* with certification from a known university or Hindu Religious Organization or any Indian Government (including State Government), and well versed with Vedic rituals. Weightage will be given to those priests who were trained and have an experience in *Smaartha*, Vaishnava and Shukla Yajurveda traditions.  Priests from Sama Veda or trained in Sama Veda who meet all other requirements in the job description and qualification will be given higher weightage.
2. Potential applicant should have a deep understanding of our scriptures to be able to discuss and provide discourses for our community particularly the younger generation.
3. Shall have unconditional faith and respect to all Hindu Deities, Gurus, Hindu customs and traditions
4. Experienced in *Agama, Archaka and*  *Alankara Sastras.*
5. Served as priest in Hindu Temples either in India, US or abroad for at least Five (5) years..
6. Shall be able to independently conduct daily rituals and festivals in Hindu temples, and Hindu family residences.
7. Knowledge in Sanskrit Language and ability to teach veda mantras, stotras / slokas and their meanings to the devotees is desirable. (running veda teaching classes)
8. Broader understanding of traditional Hindu rituals and festivals in various regions of India is required. Understanding of Sanatana Dharma – Vedas and Upanishads, Itihasas, Puranas, Srimad Bhagavatgita is required.
9. Experience in organizing major festivals or celebrations (homas, vratams, pratisthas, spiritual lectures, satsungs) would be considered as an added qualification.
10. Communication with devotees in spoken English apart from their native Language is certainly a plus and desirable.
11. Demonstrated ability of inspiring cross section of community in spiritual activities, and work amicably with temple management
12. Willingness to adapt to the needs of the devotees living in USA, and adaptability to US Temple procedures is preferred.

**Other Factors to consider**:

1. Candidate shall be willing to relocate to Greensboro, NC within a reasonable amount of time after offer and signing of the employment contract.
2. Married applicants should be able to live by themselves during the probationary period. No US immigration processing for family members shall be assumed during the probationary period.
3. R1-Visa holders, US Permanent Residents (Green card), and US Citizens are preferred. However, HSNC is willing to provide sponsorship for R1 visa for the selected candidate.

Work Contract: Initial contract may be for 1 year with a probationary period of first six months of employment. Priest shall be willing to enter into a Service Contract with bond; Contract renewal is possible upon successful completion of initial contract.

**Salary and Benefits are determined based on the candidate’s qualifications and experience**.

**Applications will be accepted until position is filled. However, applications received on or before 5 pm Eastern Standard Time May 15th, 2020, will be considered first:**

If you are interested in being considered for this vacant position, you will need to submit the following information:

1. A cover letter which describes how your training, experience, and/or coursework qualify you for this position
2. A detailed resume, describing your education, training and experience
3. A copy of your certificates and all relevant information that support your candidacy; The set of information shall include at a minimum

Transcripts / certificates, salary & benefits requirements, current Passport copy (showing name, validation date, date of birth, etc.,), current visa papers; Electronic version of chanting and sample pooja performances in DVD/VCD/CD format; pictures that show the candidate performing major events;

1. Recommendation Letters: At least two (2) letters of recommendation are required. 1st letter from Sanskrit/Vedic scholars; 2nd Letter from current employer (immediate supervisor). All letters shall be on the respective organizations letterhead and shall include contact name, address and phone Number(s). All recommendation letters shall be directly mailed to the address given below. (Author of the letter may directly email them to the email listed below)

All items mentioned above **should** reach the address below either electronically (preferred) or by postal mail **on or before 5:00 pm (EST i.e. Greensboro NC Local Time), May 15, 2020** for potential consideration for this position.

For further information, or if you have any questions regarding this position, or to know how to submit the requested information:

**Contact**: Priest Committee vis email priestsearch@triadhindutemple.org or Call the chair of Priest Search

Committee: Lakshmi Iyer via above email or Lakshmihsnc@gmail.com or phone: 336-286-9933

**Please submit the application material via email** to priestsearch@triadhindutemple.org and / or **Mail** to: **HSNC**

Attention: Priest Search Committee, P.O. Box **4643, Greensboro, NC 27404**

**Communication of this Priest Vacancy advertisement Process:**

1. Post this advertisement at the temple and HSNC website until position is filled
2. Communicate through email to all membership & temple Community.
3. Make special announcement in temple events
4. Publish in Indian News Papers (distributed in USA) and Saathee Magazine.

**Selection Process:**

Interview panel will screen all the applicants and select a pool of highly qualified candidates to interview them. Each Interview may consist of personal or phone contact. If needed, some interviews may be conducted at the temple in Huffine Mill Location, NC. Interview panel reserves rights to contact the references. HSNC reserves rights to run a background check on any applicant. Selected candidate(s) will be offered a salary plus benefit package and required to enter into a contract agreement with HSNC

If you require a special accommodation in order to participate in the application or interview process, please call or email us to discuss the needs.

**Om Shanti Shanti Shanti**