

**From:** Joe Plail [joe.plail@gmail.com](mailto:joe.plail@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Scholarship Recommendation for Daniel Schexnaydre  
**Date:** August 24, 2025 at 13:21  
**To:** [contemplativescholarship@tsadra.org](mailto:contemplativescholarship@tsadra.org)

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24<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Joseph A. Plail  
Assistant Director  
Gainesville Karma Thegsum Choling  
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Gainesville, FL 32601

Dear Scholarship Committee,

I wholeheartedly recommend Daniel Schexnaydre for a scholarship to attend the Karma Ling three-year retreat as part of the Karma Triyana Dharmacha. I have known Daniel for six years, starting when I was a sangha member and now through my role as Assistant Director of the Gainesville Karma Thegsum Choling. Throughout that time, Daniel has always shown kindness, compassion, and dedication to the teachings of the sangha. I am confident that Daniel will succeed at Karma Triyana Dharmacha and that he will make an excellent lama.

Daniel has already shown considerable dedication to the path of becoming a lama and attending Karma Triyana Dharmacha. Over the past five years, Daniel has diligently strived to meet every requirement for the retreat. He has followed the teachings and recommendations of his principal teacher, Lama Losang. He has also met with and learned from Karma Triyana Dharmacha's master lamas, who visited the Gainesville Karma Thegsum Choling. Daniel also never misses an opportunity to hear the teachings of the visiting lamas who visit us here in Gainesville.

I have come to know Daniel as a dedicated and thoughtful student and teacher of Buddhism. I personally go to Daniel when I am seeking advice and guidance. His personal modesty and sense of humor make Daniel approachable, and his integrity, knowledge of Buddhism, and wisdom are apparent in the guidance he provides.

Daniel is an active member of the teaching team here at the Gainesville Karma Thegsum Choling. Daniel regularly teaches meditation, nejang yoga, and Buddhism. Daniel also frequently teaches Buddhism and meditation to a twelve-step program in Gainesville. His knowledge of Buddhism and the Karma Kagyu lineage teachings is extensive. Often, Daniel is one of the first teachers new students interact with here at the temple.

Daniel has also personally shown great dedication to the path. Daniel is learning Tibetan and is undertaking an optional second round of practice and study in preparation for attending Karma Triyana Dharmacha. This is in addition to the many other ways Daniel shows dedication (both small and large) to the temple.

Gainesville Karma Thegsum Choling has funded his recommended pre-retreat visit in full.

I highly recommend a scholarship for Daniel Schexnaydre to attend the three-year retreat. Daniel is well prepared and dedicated. Upon completing the retreat, I am certain he will be an excellent lama who will make a significant contribution to Buddhism.

Joseph A. Plail

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