

Top 10 Questions Asked at...

Gaudenzia Philly House

1. Is there a “black out” period?

The orientation period lasts until the reentrant formally meets with the program director, new parole agent and assigned counselor. In addition, the reentrant must complete all intakes and is obligated to obtain the following documentation before privileges are administered:

- Criminal Registration Certificate
- Family Court
- Traffic Court
- Court Cost and Fees

2. Are you allowed to have visitation?

Yes. However, the reentrant is required to obtain all of the documentation outlined in the answer to question 1. Visitors cannot be under the influence of drugs or smell of alcohol, or a known active drug and alcohol abuser. Visitors cannot be actively participating in any criminal activities or be considered a negative influence on a client.

The following guidelines apply to all visitors of Gaudenzia Philly-House:

- No one may come onto the property of Gaudenzia Philly-House with any drugs or alcohol in their possession.
- No children under 18 years of age is permitted within the facility at any time.
- No one may enter with the smell of alcohol on his or her breath.
- No one may come onto the property of Gaudenzia Philly-House if they are an active substance abuser or appear to be under the influence.

During the visits from significant others, the dining room, living room and yard, are the appropriate areas for socializing. All other areas are off limits. Every effort must be made for family members and all houseguests to feel at home and have responsible social visits.

3. May I have “pay by the job” employment?

Gaudenzia Philly-House strongly promotes reentrants obtain regular full and part employment.

However, if a reentrant obtains employment that is legal and verifiable as a temporary means (such as payment for helping to move furniture, perform landscaping work (mowing, raking, etc.) etc. while continuing to seek gainful employment, the program director will not object.

4. Who is my parole agent?

Typically, there are three parole agents that supervise the facility and they fall under certain categories: General Housing Agent | Mental Health Agent | Sex Offender Agent

5. What is a “yellow card”?

The term “yellow card” was created by previous reentrants who didn’t know the official name of the document. After a reentrant is paroled, he/she must obtain a Criminal Registration Certificate. It is a small, yellow card with each reentrant’s demographic information on it from the City of Philadelphia Police Headquarters. Police Headquarters is located at 750 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106. All reentrants must be there Monday through Friday no later than 4:15 a.m. Only the first 25 reentrants will be processed. Please remember to take your release papers and the facility will provide two tokens.

6. Do you have a bottom bunk available?

Gaudenzia Philly House is wheelchair accessible. Gaudenzia Philly House has two beds in the only handicap accessible unit located on the first floor of the program. All requests for bottom bunk necessity will be reviewed by the severity of the reentrants physical limitation approved by a licensed physician.

7. Can I obtain food stamps?

No. Gaudenzia Philly House provides breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks every day to all reentrants. Therefore, you are not eligible for SNAP benefits. You are entitled for medical benefits.

8. Where is the nearest county assistance office?

Philadelphia County Assistance Office District 4 Ridge/Tioga
1350 W Sedgley Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19132
Phone: 215.560.4900
Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM

9. Where is the nearest social security office?

U.S. Social Security Administration
Phone: 800.772.1213
2929 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19132
Hours of operation:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 9 AM to 4 PM
Wednesday: 9 AM to 12 PM

10. When will I be able to go see my family?

You will be able to see your family when the following task are completed:

Task 1: The reentrant must meet with the program director, parole agent and assigned counselor.

Task 2: The reentrant must complete all intake documentation for Gaudenzia Philly-House

Task 3: The reentrant must obtain the following documentation:

- Criminal Registration Certificate: 750 Race Street Philadelphia, PA 19106
- Family Court: 501 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102
- Traffic Court: 800 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123
- Court Cost and Fees: 1301 Filbert Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

When the tasks are completed, the reentrant would be allowed to seek gainful employment, schedule medical/dental appointments, pursue secondary/vocational education and receive social time outside the facility.