

Meditation Centre

A popular meditation centre in Queensland offers several mediation courses on donation basis to people in Queensland as well as all over the world since 1990s. They have a basic website to advertise their courses but they perform other functions using paper forms with limited use of computers. The centre is now looking to develop a computing system together with a database to support some of their operations. The following is a description of their activities and requirements. Your task is to develop a solution to implement these requirements.

At the beginning of the calendar year the mediation centre publishes the details of all the courses that they offer. At the moment they offer three days, ten days and thirty days courses. The three days and thirty days courses are offered only to the old students. Ten days courses are offered to new as well as old students. An old student is someone who has done at least one ten days course earlier.

The registration of a course begins two months in advance prior to the commencement of the course. So, a date must be mentioned when the registration process starts.

A person can register for a course as a student. A person can also register to serve in a course and called a server. Only old students are allowed to serve in a course.

Students should be adults i.e. above the age of eighteen and are required to stay in the centre throughout the course duration. The centre provides each student free lodging and boarding. At the moment the centre can accommodate only twenty six (26) males and twenty six (26) females. Please note that even though the centre offers males and female courses together, complete gender segregation is maintained in lodging and boarding. An advertised course remains open for registration until it reaches the full registration (i.e. twenty six students each.) Once a course becomes full, centre continues to accept the registration up to seven more and puts them in a waiting list indicating clearly to the registered student that they are in waiting list. The centre sends an email ten days earlier than the course commencement date to all the registered students to confirm their attendance. If the centre doesn't receive a reply within two days or the registered student decline the offer, the vacant place is made available to the other waiting students if exist.

New students applying for ten days course are required to provide the information such as full names, date of birth, residential address, any medical issues, and list of prescribed medication being taken if any. Old students are required to also provide the information of up to last five courses they have attended.

Meditation centre is a non-profit organisation. Nonetheless they need finances and other help from volunteers (called servers) for general operations and maintenance of the centre.

At the end of the course, students make voluntary financial contribution (i.e., donation). Student can make a donation either in general fund or building fund. Public including students can also make donations throughout the year if they wish to. Meditation centre doesn't accept donations via website so they do not want such functionality to be implemented via website.

When a course is running, centre needs few people to serve during the course in kitchen, and providing assistance to students in their mediation practice. Such people are called servers in general but categories further as i) assistant teacher ii) kitchen help and iii) manager.

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A course is offered using pre-recorded instructions and discourses. But two assistant teachers are required in the course for the supervision and provide other guidance to students. A male teacher is preferred for male students and a female teacher is preferred for female students. Two managers are also needed. One must be a male to serve male students and another must be female to serve female students. Centre needs around ten servers including male and females to operate kitchen while course is running. Centre offers only vegetarian dishes.