

Application for Recommendation

Fill this form out, and give it to your pastor. This is intended for your interview with your local church board. They will use this to recommend you on to the District Board of Ministerial Development (DBMD). Do not send this to Education and the Ministry.

Applicant: Fill out the questionnaire and return it to your pastor preceding the time scheduled for your interview with the Local Board of Administration. If you need more space, please use separate sheets of paper.

NAME _____ **BIRTH DATE** _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

PHONE _____

1. What level of recognition are you seeking?
Ministerial Student _____ Ministerial Candidate _____ Lay Minister _____
Special Worker: Spouse in Ministry _____ Youth _____ Music _____
Other: _____
2. If you are seeking recognition as a Lay Minister, in what areas of local church life do you feel you could minister most effectively?
3. If you feel that you are called to full-time ministry in the church, explain how you came to that belief.
4. What gifts do you feel you possess that qualify you for specialized ministry?
5. How and when were you converted?

6. Have you been entirely sanctified? _____ What is your understanding of this grace?
 7. In what ways are you presently serving the Lord in the church?
 8. What are your plans for preparing yourself for ministry?
 9. Are there special areas of ministry to which you feel particularly called?
 10. Does your spouse support your call to ministry? _____ Explain any resistance.
 11. Is it your desire to minister within The Wesleyan Church?
 12. Read the Membership Commitments in *The Discipline of the Wesleyan Church*, paragraph 30. Do these principles characterize the way you live?

- Can you wholly support and practice them? _____
Explain any hesitancy.

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANT AND PASTOR

1. The pastor and Local Board of Administration have a serious responsibility relative to the recommendation of a lay minister or of a minister-in-preparation to the district for license and study. The pastor and board should evaluate carefully and prayerfully the candidate's Christian experience, reputation, conduct, and spiritual stability. While recommendation for license should not be given lightly, neither should a candidate be rejected without sound reason.
2. Each pastor should have a copy of the *Manual of Ministerial Preparation* in order to give guidance to those seeking to fulfill their call to ministry. Copies are available from Wesleyan Publishing House, P.O. Box 50434, Indianapolis, IN 46250-0434 or call 800-493-7539.
3. There are three types of lay ministry which are credentialed by The Wesleyan Church: lay minister, special worker, and lay missionary. For the lay minister, a five-course plan of study has been developed. For the special worker, a ten-course plan of study has been developed. For the lay missionary, the Church provides no special educational program with exception of requirements that may be made by the general department under which he/she serves.

4. Normally the lay minister has no plans for ministry except in connection with his/her local church. The lay minister is to assist the pastor, as the pastor shall direct. The lay minister's license is valid for only one year. There is no district involvement in the licensing of a lay minister. Once the layperson has been licensed as a lay minister, he or she is to register immediately with the Education and the Ministry Department at The International Center of The Wesleyan Church, and pursue the Lay Minister's Course of Study.
5. A special worker is a lay person who believes that he or she is divinely led to serve the Church as a director of music, director of Christian education, youth director, song evangelist, chalk artist, children's worker, spouse in ministry, lay evangelist, social worker or in some other special capacity, and who has been authorized to carry on such work by a District Conference. Upon recommendation by the Local Church Conference to the District Conference, the special worker candidate should register with the Education and the Ministry Department and pursue the Special Worker's Course of Study.
6. A ministerial student is a person who is convinced of a call, which he expects to lead to ordination, and is engaged in studies either full or part-time. A ministerial student must be examined and recommended to the District Conference and prepare for ordination under the supervision of the District Board of Ministerial Development. There is a twenty-three course plan of study for the ordination track.