

Church Recommendation Form

Applicant's name _			
Enrollment date	 	 	
Degree program			

Dear Church Committee:

As the local church, your role is crucial in the recruitment and calling of men and women into Christian service and leadership. God's call has always involved more than one individual's private decision. The New Testament is clear that there are requirements and qualifications for ministry which must be met by those who would serve. These include the recognition of one's gifts by those being served; therefore, the call to ministry is a shared process by the candidate and his or her local church.

A committee to evaluate the candidate must be comprised of at least two to three members of the church who are in staff or lay leadership roles, and/or have engaged with this applicant in ministry. If the individual who filled out the Pastoral Recommendation Form is on the committee, there should be at least two additional people on this committee as well. The interview may take place in person or over the phone. The applicant may choose to submit in writing in advance his or her answers to the questions in Section A, but the committee should still meet with the applicant and discuss his or her answers.

Whether or not the candidate enrolls in seminary, North Park believes the process of having candidates dialog with home churches is one that has value in itself. Please feel free to include any additional questions and comments that may be useful. If you have any questions, please call the NPTS Admissions Office at (800) 964–0101 or (773) 244–6229.

- 1. As a committee, meet with the candidate and discuss the questions and issues in Section A: "Interview with the candidate."
- 2. As a committee, meet without the candidate present and discuss the issues in Section B: "Questions to address within the committee."
- 3. Committee members should sign this recommendation form. Have someone act as secretary for the meeting to submit the answers to the questions on a separate sheet of paper and mail it with this form promptly to:

North Park Theological Seminary

Admissions Office, Box 14 3225 West Foster Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60625–4895

4. Keep a copy of the form.

Section A

Qι	Questions for the interview with the candidate:				
1.	What gifts for ministry do you have and in what ways have you demonstrated these gifts? How have you enriched your church and/or the Church at large?				
2.	What joys and difficulties have you experienced in ministry?				
3.	What obstacles do you foresee having to face in seminary (e.g., financial, theological, personal, familial, others)?				

Section B

Qı	uestions to address within the committee without the candidate present:
4.	How long and how well have the committee members known the candidate?
5.	Has the church recognized the gifts for ministry mentioned in Section A, Question 1? Is the candidate realistic in assessing these gifts?
6.	List reasons why you would or would not recommend this person for ministry given appropriate training in his or her particular area of interest. Ar
	there any potential problem areas or concerns for this person's effectiveness in ministry?

Church name	
Church address	
Church phone number	
Church fax number	
Submitted by (please have all committee men	pers sign this form, there should be 2-3 committee members at minimum. If the individual who filled out
the Pastoral Recommendation Form is on the	committee, there should be at least two additional people on this committee as well.):
Print name	Signature

Please email form to semadmissions@northpark.edu OR Mail to: North Park Theological Seminary Admissions, Box 14, 3225 West Foster Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60625-9972. Be sure to retain a copy for yourself.

North Park Theological Seminary admits qualified students regardless of race, age, sex, national or ethnic origin, or disability.