



Michigan School of Missional Formation  
Application Reference Form  
Michigan District, LCMS

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's Name & Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

This Deacon/Ministry Assistant/Pre-SMP Pastor Application Reference is to be completed **collectively** and signed by the applicant's pastor and chairman of the elders and the congregation. The Commission on Deacon Qualifications encourages sharing a copy of this completed form with the applicant.

1. How long have you known the applicant?

Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_ years

Elder Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ years

Congregation Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ years

2. How do you **collectively** rate the applicant's faithfulness in:

Worship attendance      \_\_\_ Exemplary    \_\_\_ Average    \_\_\_ Poor    \_\_\_ We do not know

Prayer life                \_\_\_ Exemplary    \_\_\_ Average    \_\_\_ Poor    \_\_\_ We do not know

Bible class attendance    \_\_\_ Exemplary    \_\_\_ Average    \_\_\_ Poor    \_\_\_ We do not know

Use of gifts in serving    \_\_\_ Exemplary    \_\_\_ Average    \_\_\_ Poor    \_\_\_ We do not know

Stewardship life            \_\_\_ Exemplary    \_\_\_ Average    \_\_\_ Poor    \_\_\_ We do not know

Use of leadership skills    \_\_\_ Exemplary    \_\_\_ Average    \_\_\_ Poor    \_\_\_ We do not know

3. 1 Timothy 3 provides faith and life style expectations for pastors and deacons. Regarding deacons, it specifically states, "<sup>8</sup> Deacons, likewise, are to be men worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. <sup>9</sup> They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. <sup>10</sup> They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons. <sup>11</sup> In the same way, their wives are to be women worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything. <sup>12</sup> A deacon must be the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well. <sup>13</sup> Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus," (1 Timothy 3:8-13).

According to 1 Timothy 3, to the best of your **collective** knowledge:

3.1. How would you rate the applicant in terms of being respected, sincere, etc.?

Exemplary  Average  Poor  We do not know

Comments:

3.2. Does the applicant hold the deep truths of the Christian faith and how does he/she live out his/her faith?

Exemplary  Average  Poor  We do not know

Comments:

3.3. How would you describe the applicant's marital and family life?

Exemplary  Average  Poor  We do not know

Comments:

4. **Collectively**, please identify the applicant's real or potential strengths as a deacon/ministry assistant/pre-SMP pastor;

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

5. **Collectively**, please identify the applicant's real or potential weaknesses as a deacon/ministry assistant/pre-SMP pastor;

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

C. \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

6.a. (For Deacon/Pre-SMP Pastor Applicants) When the applicant successfully completes the requirements to be licensed as a deacon by the District President, will your congregation engage him in your Word and Sacrament ministry?

Yes  No  We want to have him as a deacon, but it is premature to decide now

Comments:

6.b. (For Ministry Assistant Applicants) When the applicant successfully completes the requirements to be certified as a Ministry Assistant by the District President, will your congregation engage him/her in your congregation's ministry?

Yes  No  We want to have him/her as a ministry assistant, but it is premature to decide now

Comments:

7. Should the Michigan District Commission on Deacon Qualifications be aware of anything unique or special about the applicant?

Yes  No  We do not know

Comments:

Signatures:

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Elder Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Deacon Al Renard, Registrar  
Michigan School of Missional Formation  
Michigan District, LCMS Commission on Deacon Qualifications,  
38339 S. Rickham Ct.  
Westland, MI 48186

If necessary, you may reach Rev. Ken Huner at 734.395.4945 (cell) or [khuner70@gmail.com](mailto:khuner70@gmail.com) (e-mail) or Al Renard at 734.751.3458 or [al.renard@michigandistrict.org](mailto:al.renard@michigandistrict.org) (e-mail).