



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-Specific Ministry Pastor Application Reference Form 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-specific ministry pastor;

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

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

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

Comments:

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

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

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

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

Comments:

6.a. (For Deacon/Pre-Specific Ministry Pastor Applicants) When the applicant successfully completes the requirements to be credentialed 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 \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

Send to: Deacon Al Renard, Registrar via email (scan or save completed pdf file) to [al.renard@michigandistrict.org](mailto:al.renard@michigandistrict.org)

Or Mail: Michigan School of Missional Formation  
c/o Deacon Al Renard  
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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).