

**APPLICATION FOR CANDIDATURE FOR MINISTRY**  
**in the Presbyterian Church of Australia in the State of New South Wales.**

**Surname** \_\_\_\_\_ **Given Names** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Preferred Name** (if this is different to your given name) \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form and submit it to the Session of your congregation. The session must confirm that you are a communicant member of the Presbyterian Church and provide a report to the Presbytery. The report is sent by the Session directly to the Clerk of Presbytery along with this application form.

**Session**

Pastoral Charge which received application: \_\_\_\_\_ Date received:

Applicant has been on the Communicants' roll of this congregation since:

If the applicant has been a communicant member of this congregation for less than six months, provide details of previous membership of another congregation which satisfies the requirement that an applicant must be a communicant member of at least six months standing in a congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Australia (PCA): \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant is an active elder (see Code 7.01)  Yes  No

Acceptance of applicant recommended:  Yes  No  
 Session report included

Session Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Signature Date

**Presbytery**

Presbytery which received application: \_\_\_\_\_ Date received:

Presbytery Representative nominated to attend Candidate Review Panel interview:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Ph: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate Review Panel notified Date:

Candidate Review Panel interview Date:

Candidate Review Panel report received. Date:

Working with Children Check completed Number: Date:

Applicant accepted as Candidate:  Yes  No Date:

Copy of file forwarded to PTC Date:

**PTC**

Candidate papers received. Date:

**1. Contact details**

Residential address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact details: H: \_\_\_\_\_ W: \_\_\_\_\_ M: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Personal details**

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Citizenship:  Australian citizen  Australian Permanent Resident  
 Visa (give details of status) \_\_\_\_\_  Other (give details) \_\_\_\_\_

Marital status:  
 Single  Engaged  Married  Widowed  Divorced  Divorced and remarried  
Date of current marriage (or planned wedding) \_\_\_\_\_

Details of previous marriage/s:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name of wife/fiancée: \_\_\_\_\_

Names and years of birth of any children:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any other dependents? (Give details) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**3. Church membership**

Year and congregation of baptism: \_\_\_\_\_

Year and congregation of first communicant membership in PCA: \_\_\_\_\_

Give a brief history of your church affiliation beginning with the present, including an indication of where you have held formal membership in a congregation:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What official positions have you held in churches (volunteer and paid) ?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Education**

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- Primary School     High School     TAFE/vocational     Diploma     Bachelor
- Graduate award     Post-graduate degree

Name of Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Qualification received: \_\_\_\_\_

List any other degree level study you have completed: \_\_\_\_\_

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If you are currently enrolled in study, provide details: \_\_\_\_\_

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Provide a transcript of the highest qualification you hold AND any formal theological education in which you have enrolled (completed or uncompleted).

**5. Languages spoken**

List all languages in which you would be able to hold a pastoral conversation and/or preach:

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If you are from a non-English speaking background, indicate your level of English proficiency (preferably an IELTS result or equivalent): \_\_\_\_\_

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Do you expect to need further development in English competence in preparation for your intended ministry?  Yes                       No

If yes, give details. \_\_\_\_\_

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**6. Employment**

Give a summary of your employment history for the last ten years (if you have been employed that long). Begin with your most recent employment.

Dates	Employer	Position

Give the name and contact details of your immediate supervisor at your most recent employment. If you have been in your current employment for less than a year give the same information for the previous employment as well.

If you have been self-employed give the name and contact details of a regular client. This person may be contacted for an employment reference.

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### **7. Faith and Christian life**

On a separate sheet give a brief outline (no more than 1,000 words) of God's work in your life, including

- your spiritual background
- how you came to faith
- times of particular growth
- any significant times of spiritual struggle
- the convictions and circumstances which led to your decision to apply to be a candidate.

### **8. Ministry gifts and experience**

8.1 Who and what have been most influential in shaping your Christian thinking and your approach to ministry? Consider individuals, organisations, books and movements etc.

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8.2 Describe what motivates you to apply to be a candidate for ordination?

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8.3 Describe briefly your ministry experience. How does this support your application to be a candidate?

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8.4 Describe what you consider to be your gifts for ministry.

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8.5 In what areas of life, thought and skills do you consider that you need further development in order to be well prepared for ordained ministry?

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8.6 The Biblical qualifications for eldership include that an elder should be “above reproach” (1 Tim 3:20, Titus 1:6) and have a “good reputation with outsiders” (1 Timothy 3:7). Are you aware of any matters about your personal life and history which may affect your suitability for public ministry? This may include episodes of significant sin in the past or ongoing struggles with sin, even if these are not widely known. Any such matters should be declared in the application process. Give at least some indication of any areas of concern here.

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8.7 Are there any matters in your family situation, ministry skills or aptitude for study which may be obstacles to you completing your candidacy and being effectively engaged in ordained ministry? These may include family or health concerns which may limit the range of places in which you could serve.

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8.8 Have you at any time previously applied to be a home missionary or candidate in the Presbyterian Church of Australia or made an equivalent application to any other church or Christian organisation?

Yes  No. If Yes, give details:

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8.9 Is there any particular sort of ministry or ministry setting in which you envisage working when you complete your training? (Congregational, city, rural, assistant role, chaplain, cross-cultural ministry etc.)

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**9. Presbyterian Doctrine and Practice**

9.1 Are you familiar with the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Declaratory Statement of the PCA?  Yes  No.

9.2 What do you consider to be the major doctrines to which a minister of the PCA must hold?

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9.3 Are there any of these doctrines, or any other doctrines in the Westminster Confession of Faith, with which you disagree or about which you are unsure? (Give some details)

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9.4 Briefly outline your exposure to the government and worship of the PCA.

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9.5 What do you consider to be the strengths of the worship of the PCA?

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9.6 Are there elements of the worship of the PCA which you do not understand or with which you disagree?

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9.7 What do you consider to be the strengths of the government (i.e. the structure and function) and of the PCA?

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9.8 Are there elements of the government of the PCA which you do not understand or with which you disagree?

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**10. Interests**

10.1 List your hobbies, sporting, cultural and recreational interests.

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10.2 List organisations and groups (Christian and others) in which you have been able to demonstrate your gifts for leadership.

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**11. Health**

List any significant disabilities or health concerns, including mental health, which may affect your capacity for ministry.

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**12. Finances**

Indicate the manner in which you intend to maintain yourself and your dependent(s) during your course of training (e.g. savings, salary, Centrelink, family support etc.)

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**13. Unlawful Activities**

Have you ever been convicted of, or charged with, or participated in an unlawful activity which involved

- an act of violence towards another person     Yes                     No
- sexual assault     Yes                     No
- the use of or provision of prohibited drugs     Yes                     No
- child pornography                                     Yes                     No

If so, give details.

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Are you a "prohibited person" under the Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998?

Yes  No. If Yes, give details:

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If information concerning serious offences is disclosed on this form, or to the Presbytery or to the CRP in interviews, the church may be obliged to report that disclosure to the appropriate authority.

**14. Support for application**

14.1 What is the attitude of your wife, fiancée or family to your application?

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14.2 List the key people who have been encouraging you to consider application as a candidate.

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14.3 Give names, addresses and contact details of four persons who are well acquainted with you and who may be asked to supply a reference for you. One of these must be your present minister, or your former minister if you have been at your current church for less than six months.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**DECLARATION**

I declare that the information supplied above is, to the best of my knowledge, true. Should I be accepted as a candidate, I am willing during my course of training to submit myself to the oversight of the Presbytery and the disciplines of study and student life in general under the direction of the Faculty.

Signature: ..... Date: .....

Documents to be included by applicant:

A transcript of the highest qualification you hold AND any formal theological education in which you have enrolled (completed or uncompleted).

A brief outline (no more than 1,000 words) of God's work in your life.

**Presbytery Care** (see Code 7.07)

Year \_\_\_\_\_

Developmental goals \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FES Appointment \_\_\_\_\_

FES trainer \_\_\_\_\_

Presbytery Mentor \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Review Date:

Candidature Sustained  Yes  No

Year \_\_\_\_\_

Developmental goals \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FES Appointment \_\_\_\_\_

FES trainer \_\_\_\_\_

Presbytery Mentor \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Review Date:

Candidature Sustained  Yes  No

Year \_\_\_\_\_

Developmental goals \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FES Appointment \_\_\_\_\_

FES trainer \_\_\_\_\_

Presbytery Mentor \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Review Date:

Candidature Sustained  Yes  No

Year \_\_\_\_\_

Developmental goals \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FES Appointment \_\_\_\_\_

FES trainer \_\_\_\_\_

Presbytery Mentor \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Review Date:

Candidature Sustained  Yes  No

**Presbytery Jurisdiction** (see Code 7.06)

Record any changes of congregational membership and Presbytery jurisdiction.

New Congregation \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

New Presbytery \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

Application form and student file forwarded Date:

New Congregation \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

New Presbytery \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

Application form and student file forwarded Date:

New Congregation \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

New Presbytery \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

Application form and student file forwarded Date:

**Licensing**

**Application for Trials for licence**

Presbytery \_\_\_\_\_ Date received

Name circulated to other Presbyteries Date

Objections  Yes  No

Trials for licence approved Date:

Report on trials for licence Date:

Resolved to licence  Yes  No Date

Ministry and Mission informed of outcome Date:

Exit Certificate received Date:

Candidate licensed Date: