

APPLICATION TO BE A DEACONESS CANDIDATE
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 husband/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: _____

If you are currently enrolled in study, provide details: _____

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:

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

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

If yes, give details. _____

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.

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.

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

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

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

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?

8.6 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.

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.

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

Yes No. If Yes, give details:

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.)

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 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)

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

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

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

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

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

10. Interests

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

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

11. Health

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

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.)

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.

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

Yes No. If Yes, give details:

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 husband, fiancée or family to your application?

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

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:

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Licensing

Application for Trials for licence

Presbytery _____ Date received

Name circulated to other Presbyteries Date

Objections Yes No

- Deaconess Trials approved Date:
- Report on Deaconess Trials Date:
- Resolved to commission Yes No Date
- Ministry and Mission informed of outcome Date:
- Candidate commissioned Date: