



## PARTNER CHURCH APPLICATION FORM

### FACULTY POLICY ON SELECTION CRITERIA FOR PARTNER CHURCHES

1. *The church is a part of the Presbyterian Church of Australia (PCA).*
2. *If the church is not part of the PCA, it is Presbyterian in polity, and holds doctrinally to the Reformed Christian faith as articulated in the Westminster Confession of Faith.*
3. *Over 70 percent of church attenders agree, and less than 10 percent disagree, with each of the identified questions in Appendix 1, as reported by the findings of a PCNSW Church Health Survey completed by no fewer than 30 attenders within the last 12 months (informally through Church Offices or through an Ordinary Visitation conducted by a presbytery).*  
*Note: you must administer the approved PCNSW Church Health Survey and submit all survey forms to Church Offices for analysis and report generation. Other surveys, including those that purport to use some of the same questions, will not be accepted.*
4. *If the above metrics are not achieved, the Session is invited to submit a detailed statement to the Director of Internships that:*
  - a. *Provides an explanation for the likely cause/s of lower than expected agreement, and/or higher than expected disagreement, for relevant questions.*
  - b. *Outlines their proposed strategies, expressed as S.M.A.R.T. goals<sup>1</sup>, to address areas of deficit.*
  - c. *Summarises the professional development that relevant members of the Session and/or other church leaders will undertake over the next 12 months to develop competence in identified areas of deficit.*
5. *Partner Churches will be approved by the Director of Internships under delegated authority from Faculty.*
6. *Partner Church status will be granted for a period of three years only after which another application and further approval will be required.*

#### **Applications close 30 June**

Eligible Sessions are invited to email a complete and signed application form to the Director of Internships at [jpratt@christcollege.edu.au](mailto:jpratt@christcollege.edu.au) **by 30 June** for consideration as a possible Partner Church of Christ College from the next calendar year.

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<sup>1</sup> That is, goals that are Specific rather than general, Measurable rather than vague, Achievable given current resources, Relevant and consistent with other goals and contextual issues, and Time-bound so that required outcomes are matched with deadlines.

**PART A: SELECTION CRITERIA**

Has your church completed the approved PCNSW Church Health Survey in the last 12 months (informally through Church Offices or through an Ordinary Visitation conducted by a presbytery)? If yes, please attach a copy of the full findings report to this application.
Do 70 percent of church attenders agree, and less than 10 percent disagree, with each of the 20 identified questions in Appendix 1?
If you answered 'No' above, how many of the 20 identified questions in Appendix 1 were below the required standard (i.e. at least 70% of church attenders agree, and less than 10% disagree)?
If you have not achieved these metrics, have you attached a detailed statement as per the policy above?

**PART B: CHURCH DETAILS**

Church name:
Mailing address:
Times and locations of weekly congregational gathered worship:
Presbytery:

**PART C: SESSION MEMBERS**

Role	Name	Has this member completed any formal theological training? (Yes/No)
Moderator		
Session Clerk		
Other active members <sup>2</sup> :		

<sup>2</sup> Other ministers and elders who are serving actively as shepherds within this church. Do not include Ministers Emeritus or Elders Emeritus who are not active shepherds.


**PART D: SESSION MEETINGS**

Frequency:
Timing:
Location:
Would you be prepared to invite your approved Intern/s to regular <sup>3</sup> Session meetings?

**PART E: DESIGNATED COACHES**

**Designated Coach 1**

Name:
Email:
Phone number:
Role:
Relevant educational qualifications:
Relevant church/work experience:
Are you an ordained minister with the PCNSW?
Have you ever been a Coach/Trainer for a Christ College student?
Have you ever received training to serve as a church-based coach? If so, please provide brief details.
How many Christ College Interns could you potentially coach next year?

<sup>3</sup> This does not include times when the Session meets as a 'closed court'.

## Designated Coach 2

Name:
Email:
Phone number:
Role:
Relevant educational qualifications:
Relevant church/work experience:
Are you an ordained minister with the PCNSW?
Have you ever been a Coach/Trainer for a Christ College student?
Have you ever received training to serve as a church-based coach? If so, please provide brief details.
How many Christ College Interns could you potentially coach next year?

### Designated Coach 3

Name:
Email:
Phone number:
Role:
Relevant educational qualifications:
Relevant church/work experience:
Are you an ordained minister with the PCNSW?
Have you ever been a Coach/Trainer for a Christ College student?
Have you ever received training to serve as a church-based coach? If so, please provide brief details.
How many Christ College Interns could you potentially coach next year?

**Designated Coach 4**

Name:
Email:
Phone number:
Role:
Relevant educational qualifications:
Relevant church/work experience:
Are you an ordained minister with the PCNSW?
Have you ever been a Coach/Trainer for a Christ College student?
Have you ever received training to serve as a church-based coach? If so, please provide brief details.
How many Christ College Interns could you potentially coach next year?

## **PART F: EXPECTATIONS OF PARTNER CHURCHES**

1. Release at least one designated pastor (1 or more) to serve as a Coach. Partner Churches who cannot provide at least one designated Coach (e.g. their only Coach leaves the church) will normally lose their status as a Partner Church and will be eligible to seek re-approval when a designated Coach is available.
2. Designated Coaches should normally be ordained ministers within the PCNSW.
3. Prioritise receiving Candidate students over non-Candidate students, especially those from outside Metropolitan Sydney and those who require experience of a second church (usually for the first or third year of the Internship).
4. Evaluate rigorously every non-Candidate student application against the stated entry criteria.
5. Receive the Intern/s and their family with Christian hospitality.
6. Invite the Intern/s to all regular Session meetings and relevant staff meetings as an observer.
7. Make relevant church leaders and members available for periodic feedback.
8. For each designated Coach, complete required multi-source (360 degree) feedback surveys for themselves and their Intern/s, usually every 12 months.
9. For each designated Coach pay an allowance of \$2,000 as a lump sum at the start of each calendar year to support Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities required by Christ College<sup>4</sup>.
10. For each designated Coach grant two weeks of leave every year for CPD activities (inclusive of study leave). Leave CPD activities not taken during the year (excluding study leave) should be held forfeit, not accumulate, and not entitle the Coach/es to be paid in lieu of such leave.
11. For each designed Coach, complete 150 hours of CPD every three years, according to Christ College requirements.
12. For each designated Coach, submit to their Session a completed CPD Record Form at the end of every year.
13. For each designated Coach, submit to the Director of Internships a completed CPD Record Form at the end of three years.
14. For each designated Coach, participate in all college-mandated training each year.
15. Complete the PCNSW Church Health Survey at least once every three years (informally through Church Offices or through an Ordinary Visitation under the presbytery), normally in the last year of their three year term as a Partner Church, and submit a full copy of their findings to the Director of Internships prior to re-approval as a Partner Church.
16. Recognise that the College aims to produce students who reflect our Graduate Attribute Descriptors, including i) view and value self and others within a complementarian framework (2.A.3.); ii) engage and empower men and women to serve (5.C.4.); and iii) delight in shared leadership within PCA polity (5.A.2.).

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<sup>4</sup> Email the Director of Internships ([jpratt@christcollege.edu.au](mailto:jpratt@christcollege.edu.au)) for a copy of the CPD policy.

17. Implement the Internship as designed by the College.

**PART G: AGREEMENT**

By signing below, the Session and Designated Coach/es acknowledge that they have read and understood the before-stated expectations (Part F), and agree collectively and individually to comply with these expectations over the next three year period.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Church name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Designated Coach 1                      \_\_\_\_\_ Signature                      \_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Designated Coach 2                      \_\_\_\_\_ Signature                      \_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Designated Coach 3                      \_\_\_\_\_ Signature                      \_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Designated Coach 4                      \_\_\_\_\_ Signature                      \_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Session Clerk                      \_\_\_\_\_ Signature                      \_\_\_\_\_ Date

<b>Final Decision of the Director of Internships</b>		
Approved / Not Approved		
_____ Director of Internships	_____ Signature	_____ Date

## Appendix 1

### RELEVANT PCNSW CHURCH HEALTH SURVEY QUESTIONS

*Note: you must administer the approved PCNSW Church Health Survey and submit all survey forms to Church Offices for analysis and report generation. The current PCNSW Church Health Survey can be found on the Ministry and Mission website here:*

<http://mmpcnsw.org.au/procedures/presbytery-visitations/>

#### Christian Living

1. In our church the minister/s and elders hold firmly to the truths of the whole Bible (Q41.b)
2. In our church the minister/s and elders inspire me to trust Jesus more deeply (Q41.l)
3. In our church the minister/s and elders model Christ-like living (Q41.a)

#### Pastoral Care

4. I am able to share my deep feelings, fears and hopes with my minister/s / an elder (Q27.)
5. I feel that I can speak openly to my minister/s / an elder (Q30.)
6. Conflicts between members in my church are resolved effectively (Q29.)
7. In our church the minister/s and elders exercise discipline appropriately (Q41.i)
8. In our church the minister/s and elders ensure that all members are well cared for (Q41.g)
9. In our church the minister/s and elders pray with and for us (Q41.h)

#### Leadership

10. The leadership provided by the minister/s and elders is open and transparent (Q31.)
11. Our church has a biblically-based and culturally appropriate vision for the future that inspires me (Q40.)
12. In our church the minister/s and elders have organised our church to help us to love God, love each other, and love God's world (Q41.e)
13. Our church has developed clear strategies to help the surrounding community to trust in Jesus (Q38.)
14. In our church the minister/s and elders empower me to start new initiatives that further our church's vision (Q41.f)
15. In our church the minister/s and elders are respected as an effective team of leaders (Q41.d)

#### Preaching and Teaching

16. In our church the minister/s and elders teach the gospel from both the Old and New Testaments (Q41.c)
17. Our church preaching proclaims Jesus clearly from the Bible (Q32.)
18. Our church preaching proclaims Jesus in ways that connect with my particular needs, fears and hopes (Q33.)
19. Our church has equipped and supports me to live for Jesus in my family, work, church and community (Q25.)
20. Our church has equipped and supports me to serve others using my God-given gifts (Q26.)