

Name: _____ Email: _____

Pastoral Reference Form

Please complete and return this form if you are applying for International or National Mission Service (including volunteer service).

Mail to: **One Door**
c/o Mission Service Recruitment
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
100 Witherspoon Street
Louisville, KY 40202-1396

_____ is interested in being considered for mission service with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Since it is our purpose to secure an understanding of the applicant's personality as a whole, we urge you to be completely frank, in justice both to the person under consideration and to the church. Feel free to offer pertinent facts and judgments not covered by the questions and to exceed space limitations whenever you think necessary. We realize you will not be cognizant of the applicant's ability in every area; therefore, the "unknown" category is provided. Your comments are very helpful to our discernment process.

We shall be grateful for your prompt assistance and shall treat your reply confidentially. Please type or print clearly in black ink.

1. How long, how well, and under what circumstances have you known the applicant?

2. What do you believe to be the applicant's reasons for applying for mission service with the Church?

3. Kindly rate the applicant on the following for qualities, abilities, and skills.

The degree to which I feel he/she possesses the:	Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	Unknown
A. Call to Mission						
1) ability to articulate Christian faith and belief						
2) ability to express his/her sense of call to mission						

Comments:

Degree to which I feel he/she possesses:

B. Spiritual Maturity

	Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	Unknown
1) ability to share personal faith in a constructive way						
2) ability to display respect for people of other faiths						
3) ability to maintain faith and prayer life during times of difficulty						
4) ability to maintain a lifestyle consistent with a relationship to Christ						

Comments:

C. Emotional Strength

1) ability to identify personal strengths and weaknesses						
2) ability to be flexible in the face of change						
3) ability to grow and change in response to experience						
4) ability to withstand criticism or rejection						

Comments:

D. Cross-Cultural Adaptability

1) awareness of influence of own cultural background on personal attitudes, assumptions, values, and behavior						
2) ability to modify personal attitudes, assumptions, values, behavior in response to different cultural patterns						
3) ability to empathize with those of differing cultural patterns						
4) capacity to adjust to a different life style, i.e., isolation, lack of modern conveniences or densely populated urban areas						

Comments:

The degree to which I feel he/she is capable of:	Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	Unknown
E. Interpersonal Relationships						
1) ability to work with others, especially where there are differences of theological or political beliefs, or work objectives						
2) ability to participate in the process of planning and decision-making to produce mutually determined goals						
3) ability to listen to others						
4) ability to perceive nonverbal communication						
5) ability to respond to feelings and needs of others						

Comments:

F. Authority Relationships
ability to function effectively when:

1) ...the seat of authority is distant						
2) ...the lines of authority are blurred						
3) ...authorities are older or younger						
4) ...in an authoritarian relationship						
5) ...authorities are of a different race or culture						

Comments:

G. Analysis, Planning, Evaluation

1) skill in planning and implementation: gathering data, determining needs, planning to meet needs						
2) readiness to have program work evaluated						

Comments:

4. Note specific strengths of the applicant you have observed.

5. If you have noted any limitations in the applicant, please specify, describing the form and intensity of such behavior.

6. How would you assess the applicant's health?

7. Mission Service often involves considerable contact with people in different cultural settings. Such exposure may exaggerate the effects of some personality traits, possibly including those listed below. Please check any of these characteristics that apply to the candidate:

- | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Impatient | <input type="checkbox"/> Sullen | <input type="checkbox"/> Easily offended | <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently worried | <input type="checkbox"/> Irritable |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Argumentative | <input type="checkbox"/> Cocky | <input type="checkbox"/> Easily embarrassed | <input type="checkbox"/> Critical of others | <input type="checkbox"/> Anxious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Tense | <input type="checkbox"/> Easily discouraged | <input type="checkbox"/> Lacking in sense of humor | <input type="checkbox"/> Nervous |

Comments

8. How do you rate the applicant's potential for mission service? Please check:

- Exceptional Superior Good Average Below average Should be discouraged

9. Summary paragraph: Please state frankly your opinion of the applicant's all-around fitness for mission service, adding any significant information and impressions that have not been brought out by the preceding questions.

10. If possible, list another person qualified to give a sound appraisal of the applicant.

Name _____ Relationship to applicant _____
(teacher, employer, friend, etc.)

Address _____ Phone Number (_____) _____

Your name, address, and phone number:

Name _____ Address _____

Phone Number (_____) _____ or (_____) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Thank you very much for your help! Please send this form to:

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