

MBTS/ MBC  
**CHURCH ENDORSEMENT FORM**  
Contextualized Leadership Development

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last/Family First/Personal Middle

Center Name & Location applying to: \_\_\_\_\_

*NOTE: All blanks of the following should be filled in English and there should be three signatures of members of the church not related to the applicant (marked by ) for this form to be considered complete.*

Dear Pastor,

A member of your church has applied for admission to Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary & College CLD Program. One of the key factors we look at in our admissions process is church endorsement. We want to know that a church heartily endorses a man or woman as one with real potential for vocational Christian service. We would like to suggest some considerations which should impact your recommendation of the person involved.

1. Has the person demonstrated solid character and integrity which have been observed by you and/or others in the church?
2. Does the person have a good reputation, both within the church and with the community at large? For instance, is the person known for being upright and honest in financial dealings?
3. Has the person demonstrated genuine leadership ability, i.e. the ability to focus on an objective and to lead others in pursuing that objective?
4. Are you aware of any circumstances in the person's background which might negatively influence his or her ability to lead effectively? For instance: Are you aware of any criminal activity in the person's past? Has there been any substance abuse, either alcohol or drug related? Has this person ever been treated for any psychological or mental disorders?
5. Has the person demonstrated an ability to get along well with other people? We realize everyone has an occasional conflict situation arise. What we are concerned about is whether there is any recognizable pattern or difficulties in relationships.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. We take very seriously your endorsement. We at Midwestern would be unable to minister effectively without the cooperation of the churches.

Admissions Committee  
Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary & College

**Church Information**

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Denomination \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

*The contact person is the name of a person to contact for additional information regarding the applicant.*

**Part 1: Membership and Ministry**

*This section is to be completed by an appropriate official or committee of the church. A response is to be made to each item. If any item is left blank, please attach a statement of explanation.*

Is applicant a member of your church?       Yes    No

Date applicant became a member of your church (month/year)

Applicant became a member of your church by:

- Profession of Faith
- Letter from a Southern Baptist Church
- United from a non-Southern Baptist Church
- Other (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

Is the applicant a person who reflects church related activity equal to or above that of the committed laity of your church in:

- Worship service attendance       Yes  No  
 Financial stewardship               Yes  No  
 Program organization involvement    Yes  No

*Sunday school, church training, church music, missions organizations, etc*

Please list positions of leadership, volunteer or paid, which the applicant has held in your church:

Position	Approximate length of service

**Part II: Personal and Biographical Information**

1. Do you believe the applicant to be physically and emotionally qualified to meet the normal demands of religious vocational training and employment?    Yes    No  
 If not, please explain \_\_\_\_\_

2. The seminary’s task, as interpreted by the denomination, is that of training those who have shown promise of being leaders. Is there solid evidence to suggest that the applicant in question has genuine potential for leading people? (Individuals, small groups, and large groups)  
 Please explain \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

3. How would you describe the applicant’s personal relationships (i.e. How does he or she get along with people?)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4. Do you see any potential problems that would hinder the applicant’s ability to perform ministry effectively?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of person completing Parts I and II: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Part III: Statement of Endorsement**

*The following statement must be read to the congregation and approved by a vote of the congregation:*

Having evidenced that the named applicant to Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary & College’s CLD Program is an individual who is committed to the Christian faith, evidences a divine call to ministry, has moral integrity, is emotionally stable so as to be able to fill leadership responsibilities in church life, and shows potential for responsible Christian ministry, we recommend him/her for admission to Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary & College’s CLD Program and pledge our continuing interest and prayerful support of him/her.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Moderator

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Congregational Approval

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Church Clerk

MBTS/MBC admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national or ethnic origin, or handicap in the administration of its educational or admissions policies, scholarship, grant, loan, or other school-administered program. MBTS/MBC is an Equal Education Opportunity Institution.