

Initial Council Recommendation Form

Article 7 Applicants

This portion is to be completed by the applicant and then given to the pastor or clerk of the council (board or governing body) of his or her church.

Applicant's Name: _____
Last/Family First Middle

Ministry/Career Goals: _____

Are you a professing member of a Christian Reformed Church?

Yes No

If "yes," give the date and the congregation:

If "no," please provide reason:

Check one of the following boxes and sign below.

I waive my right to view this recommendation. I do not waive my right to view this recommendation

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

This portion is to be completed by the applicant's church council

Your candid assessment of the individual indicated above is a valuable tool for your Classical Ministry Leadership Team (CMLT) and the Candidacy Committee of the Christian Reformed Church. Your honest appraisal of the individual's character, lifestyle, and ministry skills provides helpful information to assist the individual to grow and successfully reach the candidacy stage and serve the church well. Please note that the CMLT will also make an assessment and then work with the applicant to draft a Study Plan or Learning Covenant, as well as a Financial Plan. The CMLT will also assist the applicant in finding a suitable mentor. Your insights as leaders will also assist this process.

As a Council, you are also asked to partner with this applicant as they begin their journey towards ministry in the CRC. We encourage you to maintain contact with the applicant and show an active and ongoing interest in their progress. This may involve written communication and (where possible) personal contacts. It is also hoped that you may be able to provide some ministry opportunities for this applicant to serve in your midst (if feasible), including the opportunity to exhort/preach once the individual has been licensed.

1. How long has the applicant been a member of your church?

2. Has the applicant held a leadership office (elder, deacon) or a paid position in your church?

Yes No If "yes," please describe:

3. How well did the applicant carry out his or her duties in these leadership roles?

4. In what other ways has the applicant been involved with the church? Provide examples.

5. Describe the applicant's interaction with other members of the church.

6. Describe the applicant's Christian commitment and lifestyle. Provide examples.

7. Are there any matters regarding Christian doctrine or life which should be noted?

Yes No (If "yes," please explain on a separate piece of paper.)

8. Summarize what you believe are the applicant's strengths and/or gifts for ministry.

9. Summarize the areas that you believe the applicant will need to grow in order to be effective in ministry.

10. What motivates the applicant's desire to prepare for Christian ministry?

11. Do you, the church council, recommend the applicant for pursuit of Christian ministry in the CRC?

- Yes, without reservation
- Yes, with reservation (elaborate on a separate piece of paper)
- No, we do not recommend (elaborate on a separate piece of paper)

12. If you are recommending this applicant for ministry in the CRC, please indicate what makes this applicant's gifts exceptional and how their "native ability" for preaching has been expressed.

13. Has your council inquired as the student's financial needs and considered ways to assist?

- Yes No If "No," why not?

Feel free to provide any additional comments on a separate sheet of paper and attach it to this form.

Church Information

Church Name: _____

Address: _____

City State/Province Zip/Postal Code Country

Phone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

Email: _____

Name of pastor or church official signing this form:

Name Title

Signature: _____ Date _____

After completing and signing this form, please send it to your Classis Ministerial Leadership Team (CMLT). Also include a copy of the individual's Application to Council. Thank you.