

**Blackhawk Presbytery
Committee on Preparation for Ministry**

Application for Certification Program for Commissioned Pastor (CP)

Applicant's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____
(Street or PO Box)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Phone (Home): _____ Phone (Cell): _____

Email Address: _____

Gender: Male Female Date of Birth: _____

Occupation/Place of Employment: _____

Church of Membership: _____
(Name of Church) (City, State)

What church occupation (Pastor, Youth Leader, etc.) are you interested in at this time?

Academic Background

List the academic institutions you have attended, beginning with high school, and complete the information requested:

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Dates Attended</u>	<u>Program/Major</u>	<u>Diploma/Degree</u>
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Describe any previous experience in lay preaching or lay pastor training:

Occupational History

List the three most recent full-time or part-time positions in which you have been employed and attach it to this application. Provide the following information: job title, dates of employment, aspect most enjoyed, aspect most disliked.

Church History

Date and place of baptism:

Date and place of profession of faith:

Church membership:

 Date joined:

 Date ordained a ruling elder:

 Date ordained a deacon:

List other churches where you have been a member.

List areas of involvement in your local church, both as a participant and as a leader. Indicate areas of leadership.

List areas of involvement in Presbytery, Synod, or General Assembly.

List voluntary services, civic or social organizations of which you are or have been a member. Indicate your extent of participation and your role.

List any factors that may place limits on your ability to receive training or to serve as a Commissioned Pastor (CP).

Questions for Reflection

Write a response to each of the following questions and attach to this application.

1. In one or two paragraphs, describe yourself as a person.
2. Describe briefly what it means to you to be a Commissioned Pastor? What has motivated you to consider this program?
3. Write a brief statement of your personal faith (approximately 300-500 words). Your statement should describe (at minimum) what you believe about God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and your relationship to them.
4. What does it mean to you to be a Presbyterian?
5. Describe your current spiritual journey, spiritual practices, prayer life, and disciplines.
6. Comment on your interests, hobbies, and stress-relieving activities.

References

Please list three people who will serve as references. One should be your pastor or a pastor within Blackhawk Presbytery.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Relationship: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Relationship: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Relationship: _____

Please ask your references to complete Form BHP-CP 1B (Reference for Commissioned Pastor Applicant), including the questions for reflection, and send their responses under separate cover directly to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry at the following address: Blackhawk Presbytery, Attn: CPM, P.O. Box 476, Oregon, IL 61061.

I promise, in reliance upon the grace of God, to participate diligently and wholeheartedly with the Session and the Presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry/Committee of Ministry in exploring my vocation.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

After completing the application, make a copy for yourself and submit the original to the Clerk of Session or Moderator of the Session of your home church.