

Application for
THE ACADEMY FOR SPIRITUAL FORMATION

A program of Upper Room Ministries

The Academy for Spiritual Formation® is ecumenical and inclusive. It is open to ALL persons who are seeking God and wish to grow in Christian community with other seekers. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply as every effort is made to find host retreat centers that are fully ADA compliant.

Send your application to: Johnny Sears, the Upper Room, P.O. Box 340004, Nashville, TN 37203-0004 , phone: 615/340-7226.

QUALITIES OF APPLICANTS

THE ACADEMY FOR SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Before filling out the application, we suggest that you look at your situation in relation to the following ideal qualifications. It is not anticipated that to be selected for this program every one of the following criteria must be met. However, persons whose experience includes a significant combination of these will find higher compatibility with the program and intention of the Academy.

CRITERIA

Individuals who:

1. Sense a call to a spiritually focused personal ministry (lay or clergy).
2. Have had this call affirmed by others who can vouch for his/her spiritually helpful gifts, and/or the earnest desire for the same.
3. Desire to give significant priority to personal spiritual growth and to be involved with the spiritual formation of others.
4. Have significant life experience and maturity.
5. Desire a serious, experientially and academically oriented, exploratory two-year program with an ecumenical mix of peers and staff.
6. Are open to a variety of Christian spiritual traditions.
7. Have a willingness to engage in a program of study that involves considerable reading.
8. Are affirmed or sponsored for the program by a local church, judicatory, religious community, seminary, counseling center, or other suitable sponsor that will help encourage their work.
9. Have a capacity to enter into and contribute to an intense spiritual community even when it may include struggle or conflict.
10. Have an openness for racial ethnic and cultural diversity within the Body of Christ.

THE ACADEMY FOR SPIRITUAL FORMATION

For which Academy are you applying? _____

*Please provide a short essay (roughly two single-spaced pages)
that includes answers to the following questions:*

1. **What attracts you to this program?**
2. **What important life experiences do you have behind this attraction?** (Include comments on the nature of your spiritual journey and your personal prayer pilgrimage.)

Please list the name, address, email and telephone number of (a.) one person who knows you on a personal basis; (b). one person who participates with you in a Christian community; and (c.) one person who is aware of your skills and potential. Please contact these persons and send a copy of the attached "Qualities of Applicants" and ask them to submit letters of recommendation on your behalf to the Academy Office. For convenience, they may email or fax their letter to the address below. Please include each person's title.

a.	_____	Phone: _____
	_____	Email: _____
b.	_____	Phone: _____
	_____	Email: _____
c.	_____	Phone: _____
	_____	Email: _____

The fax number for The Academy is 615-340-7257.

A personal interview may be requested.

Send your application to: Johnny Sears
Academy for Spiritual Formation
P. O. Box 340004
Nashville, TN 37203-0004
academy@upperroom.org

Send a **\$50.00 application fee** with your application made payable to "The Academy" (non-refundable).

NOTE: We cannot proceed in the selection process without your three letters of reference.

Academy Application Form, Part Three

Send/email a recent
passport size photo (2"x 2")
with your completed
application. Electronic
transmission is preferred.

THE ACADEMY FOR SPIRITUAL FORMATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS (HOME) _____

(WORK) _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONES (HOME) _____ (WORK) _____

E-MAIL: _____

NAME FOR NAME TAG _____

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION _____

CURRENT OCCUPATION _____

AGE GROUP: 25-29 ___ 30-39 ___ 40-49 ___ 50-59 ___ 60 + ___

HIGHEST EARNED ACADEMIC DEGREE _____

MAJOR SUBJECT _____

CLERGY ___ LAY ___

OUTLINE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AFTER HIGH SCHOOL:

OUTLINE YOUR OCCUPATIONAL HISTORY:

A medical physical exam is recommended before coming to Session I. It is essential if you decide to begin a physical fitness program in connection with the Academy experience.