

Advance Residency

Overview of Program and Expectations for 2016

Overview

Advance Residency is for anyone who wants to live a lifetime of ministry (as a church planter, on staff at a church, overseas, or as a Christian serving both in the local church and in the marketplace). We are implementing this program to prepare and send out emerging leaders to be messengers of reconciliation in a variety of ministry contexts. It is a commitment the church and resident should take very seriously.

The Residency Program gives leaders the opportunity to explore and develop in vocational ministry. Residents work 24 hours a week for three years, which includes practical ministry experience and theological training.

Through our relationship with Porterbrook Seminary, residents will receive practical education through their 24-course program made available via online curriculum and on-site cohort study. Advance will pay for the resident's course study.

Additionally, ministry experience will be diverse and comprehensive. Residents will have opportunity to lead many ministries, eventually teach and preach, attend conferences, and participate in mission trips. We believe it is beneficial for each resident to be thoroughly trained and equipped for whatever God has in store.

Questions &
Answers

ARE THE ADVANCE RESIDENTS COMPENSATED?

Residents at Advance are paid. They will receive \$12,000 the first year, \$15,000 the second year, and \$18,000 the third year. They will be paid once a month. The reason for the annual increase in pay is due to increased responsibility each year. Additionally, selected conferences, mission trips, and Porterbrook courses will be paid for by the church for each resident during the residency process. (*Residents will be loaned a MacBook to use during the residency.*)

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED WORK HOURS?

Each resident is expected to work 20 hours a week for the church, plus an additional 4 hours each week for the theological training class (Sunday worship is included - 3.5 hours). The total time commitment will be 24 hours weekly. Work hours will be tracked and submitted by the resident on a regular basis. The pastor will be responsible for setting the work schedule.

Notes:

1. Each resident is expected to go on ONE mission trip with Advance per year. They must fundraise for this trip. Whatever is not raised by the resident will be covered by the church.
2. Residents can expect flexibility regarding half of their work hours each week.
3. Community Group participation is required.

WHAT IS THE RESIDENCY'S RELATIONSHIP WITH "ADVANCE COMMUNITY INSTITUTE"?

Advance Community Institute (A.C.I.) will begin offering Porterbrook courses every 6 weeks starting in 2016. There will be 24 courses in all running consecutively. It will take approximately 3 years to complete all of them. A.C.I. will internally count each course as equivalent to ONE credit hour. The completion of A.C.I. is the expectation of all residents. Residents are required to keep up with the online pace of the course as well as participate in both cohort gatherings which will take place throughout each course. (A cohort is a group of people who journey through a course together.) A.C.I. partnered with Porterbrook will be a robust experience which will be well worth the time and effort for a life of dynamic faith and effective ministry.

Notes:

1. A.C.I. requires online and on-site participation.
2. Residents will occasionally be required to assist in leading the cohort experience.

WHAT IS THE VACATION POLICY?

There is a two-part answer to this question. First, residents will be allotted 3 weeks vacation per year. Secondly, residents are given 3 Sundays off per year.

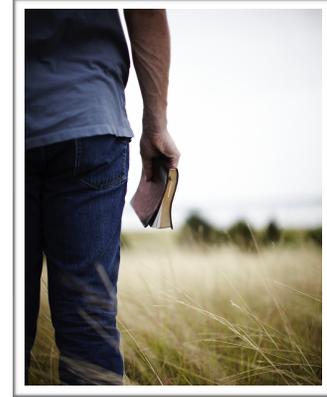
Notes:

1. Christmas and Easter services are not available for vacation.

2. Sundays missed due to church-related mission trips do not count as vacation.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY:

1. Clean Background Checks
2. Must be a “Committed Partner” of Advance Community Church (if married, both husband and wife must be partners)



HOW ARE RESIDENTS SELECTED?

Prospective residents must complete the Acts 29 Pre-Assessment. The elders will select a resident based on the assessment results. The residency begins 1/2/16.

*Serve the Lord with
gladness! Come into His
presence with singing!*

Psalm 100:2

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A COMPLETED RESIDENCY?

There are generally 4 possible options for someone who completes the Advance Residency program.

1. **MARKETPLACE MINISTRY:** We believe it is possible for someone to complete the residency program only to discover that vocational ministry isn't the right fit. This is okay. The Kingdom needs better equipped people for vocational life in the marketplace. Also, every church needs quality people serving in the roles of elders and deacons who have been theologically trained.
2. **CHURCH PLANTER WITH ADVANCE:** If Advance Community Church is ready to plant (i.e. - elders, deacons, location, and finances are in place), then it is possible for a resident to start the process of transitioning into the role of the next planter of the church. This may not be an instantaneous transition, but it will be intentional. The minimum requirements of a pastor with Advance is 36 credit hours of Bible (twenty-four of which will be completed through A.C.I.). Based on Acts 29 pre-assessment results, a potential planter will be required to take an additional 12 credit hours of courses that will address areas in need of further growth. These additional courses will need to be approved by the elders.
3. **STAFF POSITION AT ADVANCE:** We can't predict the needs and opportunities of Advance Community Church in the upcoming years. However, there may be opportunity for a successful resident to serve on staff within Advance based on strengths of the resident and needs of the church.
4. **VOCATIONAL MINISTRY ELSEWHERE:** At the end of the residency program, Advance may not be ready to plant a church or able to hire additional staff. Through the church's connections with Acts 29 and other relationships, we will do all we can to assist a person who completed the residency program in attaining a ministry position elsewhere.