



**THE WESLEYAN CHURCH  
DBMD NO. 2  
INITIAL REFERENCE FORM**

\_\_\_\_\_ District

**Instructions to Candidate:** *Your local church conference has recommended you for licensing by the district board of ministerial development as a ministerial student or licensed minister. Follow the instructions of your district board of ministerial development as to appropriate persons who can complete this confidential evaluation. (Suggested persons are: most recent pastor, vice-chair of your local board of administration, theology professor, another member of your local church.) Fill in your name and district name in the appropriate places on this form before giving copies to your references. You should supply a stamped envelope addressed to the chair of your DBMD with each form.*

Please sign the following waiver:

*The information provided on this form is confidential. It is only for use by the Wesleyan District Board of Ministerial Development and Wesleyan Church officials and will not be released or provided to any other parties.*

*I hereby freely give permission for the use of this information by the district and general officials of The Wesleyan Church and waive my right to examine any confidential information about me provided by other persons.*

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Instructions to the Respondent:** \_\_\_\_\_ has made application for licensing as a ministerial student or as a licensed minister with the \_\_\_\_\_ District of The Wesleyan Church. The applicant/candidate has requested that you be one of the persons to make a candid evaluation to help our district board of ministerial development better evaluate the potential of the candidate. Nurture and counsel of the candidate will be advanced by an honest and frank assessment of each of the areas listed. The information you give will be used discreetly as a means of directing and assisting the candidate in discovering God's will concerning the ministry.

1. In what relationship did you know the applicant?  
For how long?
2. In your judgment, does the applicant demonstrate he/she has experienced genuine conversion?

3. In your judgment, does the applicant demonstrate a sense of God's calling to vocational ministry?
4. How do you evaluate her/him as to:
- |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |     |
|---|------|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| a. Personal integrity / honesty                                 | High | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Low |
| b. Maintaining a consistent Christian lifestyle                 | High | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Low |
| c. Cooperative spirit   | High | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Low |
| d. Church attendance  | High | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Low |
| e. Promptness   | High | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Low |
| f. Ability to meet and relate to people                         | High | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Low |
| g. Family relationships ( <i>with parents/spouse/children</i> ) | High | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Low |
| h. Depth of spiritual life                                      | High | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Low |
| i. Reputation in the community                                  | High | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Low |
| j. Personal appearance  | High | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Low |
| k. Management of finances                                       | High | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Low |
| l. Speaking ability, communication                              | High | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Low |
| m. Aptitude or potential for ministry                           | High | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Low |
5. Have people been led to a personal relationship with Jesus and made a part of the local church body through the candidate's labors?
6. Have people grown spiritually due to the involvement of the candidate in their lives?
7. List the areas of greatest strength you see in the candidate.

8. List the areas you feel the candidate could improve and thereby enhance effectiveness as a person and as a ministerial aspirant.
  
9. In your judgment, does the candidate demonstrate social behaviors or a lack of social skills that could serve as a deterrent to effective ministry? If so, please explain.
  
10. In your judgment, does the candidate present any emotional or psychological issues that could serve as a deterrent to effective ministry? If so, please explain.
  
11. Give any other information that may be of help in understanding and advising the applicant in preparation for the ministry.
  
12. Are you aware of any circumstances, past or present, which cause you to question the applicant's qualifications for ministry? \_\_\_\_\_ if so, please provide details.
  
13. Are there other individuals we should check with before licensing this person? If so, please identify them.
  
14. Would you be willing to hire this person as a staff member in your church if you had an opening and available finances to provide for their employment? If not, please explain.

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed form to: