

## RECOMMENDATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR PASTOR AND APPLICANT

The pastor and Local Board of Administration have a serious responsibility relative to the recommendation of a lay special worker or of a minister-in-preparation to the district for ministry studies. The pastor and board should evaluate carefully and prayerfully the candidate's Christian experience, reputation, conduct, and spiritual stability. While recommendation for license to study should not be given lightly, neither should a candidate be rejected without sound reason. Use the separate LBA Recommendation Form after meeting with the applicant. It is available here: <https://www.wesleyan.org/ecd/ministerial-preparation>.

Each pastor should have a copy of the *Manual of Ministerial Preparation* in order to give guidance to those seeking to fulfill their call to ministry. A copy can be obtained from the Education and Clergy Development Division by emailing [education@wesleyan.org](mailto:education@wesleyan.org) or visiting <https://www.wesleyan.org/ecd/ministerial-preparation>.

A **ministerial student** is a person who is convinced of a call, which he or she expects to lead to ordination, and is engaged in studies either full or part-time. A ministerial student must be examined and recommended to the District Conference and prepare for ordination under the supervision of the District Board of Ministerial Development. A ministerial student must also enroll with Education and Clergy Development ([www.wesleyan.org/ecd/enroll](http://www.wesleyan.org/ecd/enroll)).

There are three types of **lay ministry** which are credentialed by The Wesleyan Church: lay minister, special worker, and lay missionary.

1. Normally the lay minister has no plans for ministry except in connection with the local church. The lay minister is to assist the pastor, as the pastor shall direct. The lay minister's license is valid for only one year. There is no district involvement in the licensing of a lay minister. Once the layperson has been licensed as a lay minister, he or she is to enroll immediately with Education and Clergy Development ([www.wesleyan.org/ecd/enroll](http://www.wesleyan.org/ecd/enroll)) and pursue the Lay Minister's Course of Study.
2. A special worker is a lay person who believes that he or she is divinely led to serve the Church as a director of music, director of Christian education, youth director, song evangelist, chalk artist, children's worker, spouse in ministry, lay evangelist, social worker or in some other special capacity, and who has been authorized to carry on such work by a District Conference. Upon recommendation by the Local Church to the DBMD, the special worker candidate should enroll with Education and Clergy Development ([www.wesleyan.org/ecd/enroll](http://www.wesleyan.org/ecd/enroll)) and pursue the Special Worker's Course of Study.
3. A lay missionary is appointed by the General Board and examined by the DBMD. There are no educational requirements. A person seeking this category should contact Global Partners or Church Multiplication & Discipleship.

# Student Application for Recommendation

**Applicant:** Fill out the questionnaire and return it to your pastor preceding the time scheduled for your interview with the Local Board of Administration. If you need more space, please use separate sheets of paper.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTH DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

1. What level of ministerial credentialing are you seeking?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Ministerial Student (Ordination track)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Lay Special Worker  
\_\_\_\_\_ Lay Minister
2. If you are seeking recognition as a Lay Minister, in what areas of local church life do you feel you could minister most effectively?
3. If you feel that you are called to full-time ministry in the church (ministerial student-ordination track), explain how you came to that belief.
4. What gifts do you feel you possess that qualify you for specialized ministry?
5. How and when were you converted?
6. Have you been entirely sanctified? \_\_\_\_\_ What is your understanding of this grace?
7. In what ways are you presently serving the Lord in the church?
8. What are your plans for preparing yourself for ministry?

9. Are there special areas of ministry to which you feel particularly called?
10. Does your spouse support your call to ministry? \_\_\_\_\_ Explain any resistance.
11. Is it your desire to minister within The Wesleyan Church?
12. Read the "Guides and Helps to Holy Living" in *The Discipline of the Wesleyan Church*, paragraph 260. Do these principles characterize the way you live? \_\_\_\_\_  
Can you wholly support and practice them? \_\_\_\_\_  
Explain any hesitancy.