

# Harding University – Master of Ministry

## Agreement with the Local Church

The person named below has made application to the Master of Ministry program at Harding University. The purpose of the program is to equip an increasing number of Christians as professional and non-professional ministers capable of serving effectively and encouraging others in Christian service in the local church and the world. The nature of this program is practical and requires that students participate in hands-on experiences within the local church. The applicant is asking that your congregation serve as their ministry “laboratory.”

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Your help in filling out the information below is appreciated very much. The applicant should have provided you with a stamped, addressed envelope. Please return this form directly to Harding rather than to the applicant:

Dr. Bill Richardson  
Harding University  
Master of Ministry Program  
Box 12236  
Searcy, Arkansas 72149-2236

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Your area of involvement within the local church: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of congregation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of the church: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number of the church: \_\_\_\_\_

Your relationship to the applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of time you have known the applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Please answer the following questions:

1. The Master of Ministry program provides practical training through the following courses. Please check all courses in which you believe the applicant might possibly participate in a practical, hands-on way with an on-going ministry within your church.  
  
 Christian Communication (Preaching, Teaching, Writing, Electronic Media, Mass Media)  
 Evangelism Strategies (evangelistic studies, small groups, church planting, missions)  
 Christian Religious Education (teaching at all age levels and formats)  
 Art of Preaching (public speaking)  
 People Helping (crisis intervention, informal ministerial counseling, support groups)  
 Conflict Management (conflict management; process of transition and change management; processes for establishing congregational vision, goals, and plans)  
 Spiritual Formation and Discipleship (meditation, prayer, and theological reflection; strategies to mentor others in personal faith development)  
 Servant Leadership (participating with others in identifying gifts and ministries; strategies for developing leadership potential)  
 Congregational Ministries (motivating and training Christians for ministry)  
 Women's Ministries (whole-life ministry to other women)
2. In some instances, students may be challenged to present a retreat or workshop for a segment of the church, develop a class, preach or teach a series of lessons, etc. Can you envision such an event that would benefit the local church? If yes, please describe below.
3. Would there be individuals within the congregation who could serve as a mentor (coach, teacher) for the applicant in certain areas of ministry? If yes, please list below along with their area of expertise.
4. Would your congregation be willing to participate with the applicant in his/her practical training? Circle one: YES NO
5. Would you like to be contacted by a representative of the program to speak further about the congregation's role in preparing the applicant for ministry?

Thank you!!