

Pastor is a new lay specified ministry of the Church. It means a lay person commissioned by a Presbytery, Synod or Assembly, to minister within a Congregation, community or Church based organisation for the purpose of undertaking one or more of the following tasks:

- (a) Teaching the beliefs and practices of the Church; and /or
- (b) pastoral oversight of members and/or groups operating under the auspices of the Church; and/or
- (c) leadership of worship in congregations or faith communities of the Church; and/or
- (d) evangelism or service beyond a gathered congregation but which is exercised under the auspices of the Uniting Church.

LAY SPECIFIED MINISTRY OF PASTOR

Guidelines for Applications made under Regulation 3.14.6b

date

2010

location

SYNOD OF NSW AND THE ACT

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Application under Regulation 2.14.6 (b)

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Regulation 2.14.8 requires that a Synod designates a body that will have responsibility for considering and determining applications made under Regulation 2.14.6 (b).

In our Synod, the designated body is the newly formed **Ministry of Pastor Committee**. This committee will liaise with all parties required for the proper processing of all applications made under 2.14.6 (b).

You can contact this committee via the Ministry of Pastor Consultant,
Jorge Rebolledo:
Phone: (02) 8838 8916; Mobile 0433 739 105
Email: mop@nsw.uca.org.au
Web: www.ucapastor.org



***It is advisable to be placed on the ministry of Pastor mailing list
(Go to www.ucapastor.org) and/or join the ministry of Pastor Blog
(www.ucapastor.blogspot.com) to keep up to date.***



Following is the process for applying via pathway B:

- o All applications come to the Ministry of Pastor Committee on the Prescribed application form (available from the Ministry of Pastor Committee and from the ministry of Pastor website for download)
- o All applications include:
 - Confidential references from the applicant's minister (or equivalent) and the Church Council
 - Certified copies of all previous studies, accredited and non accredited
 - A complete and updated CV
 - A statement of journey and sense of call
 - Statement of their gifts and graces
 - Statement of their hopes for future ministry
 - Statement outlining their understanding of the Polity and Ethos of the UCA
 - Statement outlining their understanding of the Code of Ethics and Ministry Practice
 - Confidential Code of Ethics and Ministry Practice Reference

2. A Psychological Assessment is arranged for the applicant

3. An interview be held with the applicant when all relevant information as stated in 1 and 2 has been received

- o The interview panel will consist of:

- Ministry of pastor consultant
- 2 people from the ministry of Pastor committee
- The applicant may also bring a support person

- o The interview will seek to further ascertain the following:

- (i) the gifts and graces appropriate to the ministry of Pastor;
- (ii) the applicant's spiritual maturity and sense of call;
- (iii) the applicant's capacity for exercising this ministry and perceived potential to meet the required competencies for the ministry of Pastor;
- (iv) the applicant's personality and character; and
- (v) the applicant's willingness to accept the doctrine, polity and discipline of the Church.

4. Training/Education

- o If the committee determines that the applicant's application is to be progressed, then:

- The committee conducts a formal core competency assessment on the applicant

- The committee conducts a formal general competency assessment on the applicant

- o Once these assessments are completed, the committee determines any course of study which the applicant must undertake with respect to the Core Competencies, and any course of study the applicant should be advised and/or encouraged to undertake with respect to General Competencies



5. Recommendation/accreditation

- o Once an applicant has completed all training and education requirements, and all other requirements have been satisfied, the committee will conduct a “readiness for ministry” interview:
 - The interview panel will consist of 3 people from the ministry of pastor committee (including one person from the relevant area of ministry)
 - A person from the applicant’s cultural background is also to be included in the panel as required
- The applicant may bring a support person to the interview
- o Once the applicant has satisfied the requirements, then it will propose to the Board of Education that the applicant be deemed to have satisfied all requirements under the regulations and is ready for ministry, and as such be recommended to ACOMP for consideration for any appropriate ministry location which has been designated as appropriate for the ministry of Pastor



6. Ongoing training and Formation

- o The issue of continuing education and formation is to be the responsibility of the Presbytery (or Synod in the case of a Synod appointment, or Assembly in the case of an Assembly appointment) in which the person is placed.

It is important that you gather as much information about your previous studies and experience for this assessment. See the evidence examples in the Assessment section of this handbook.

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Ministry of Pastor Consultant

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