

**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NIGERIA**

**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION INTO TRAINING FOR THE HOLY MINISTRY**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**FORM NO**. **Passport**

 **Photograph**

**Name**: ...................................................................................................................

**Type of Ministry**: ..................................................................................................

**First Application**: ..................................................................................................

**Second Application**: .............................................................................................

**Third Application**: ................................................................................................

**Phone No**: ............................................................................................................

**Postal Address**: ....................................................................................................

**E-Mail**: .................................................................................................................

This document is to be retained by the Board of Education in the candidate’s file.

**THIS APPLICATION FORM DOES NOT GUARANTEE AN IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT BY THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NIGERIA**

 **REQUIREMENTS**

1. A candidate for the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church must be between the ages of 21 and 45 at the time of admission. Tent-makers must not exceed the age of 50 at the time of application but must be certified by the Presbytery as physically, mental and spiritually fit.

2. Birth certificate If lost, an affidavit must be sworn.

3. Baptismal certificate – photocopy (original may be requested for viewing). If lost, a written statement from the Session of Baptism would be enough.

4. Confirmation certificate photocopy (original may be requested for viewing). If lost, a written statement from the Parish that confirmed the candidate would be enough.

5. Certificates of Academic Qualifications (photocopies should be attached and originals brought for the interview). Sessions and Presbyteries should be the first to check.

6. Marriage Certificate (if married). Marriage may be “By Ordinance” or “Marriage Blessing”. Candidates MUST know that they cannot be accepted into the Holy Ministry if their marriage has not been blessed in a Christian Church.

7. Two passport photograph.

 **PROCEDURE OF APPLICATION**

1. The candidate should write an original letter in his/her handwriting to his/her Parish Session where he/she is on the communicant roll asking to be considered for training for the Holy Ministry. If the application is for fulltime Ministry and the Session is favourable to the application, it shall then resolve to engage the applicant as a Parish worker paid or unpaid for one year (The engagement as Parish worker is not required for candidates for the tent making Ministry). The applicant should then be called upon before the session and interviewed. That original letter should be attached to this applicant form along with the Session’s general comments on the candidates. The candidate is not to see the form again after submission to the Session.

2. The Presbytery shall interview the candidate.

3. The completed forms shall be forwarded to the Synod by the Clerk of Presbytery, who shall certify them along with the Moderator of Presbytery. The Clerk of Synod shall forward the forms to the Board of Education, having certified them along with the Moderator of Synod.

4. Presbytery shall send a yearly certification to the Board of Education through the Synod before the candidate returns to school for the next academic session.

**PART I - PERSONAL DATA OF THE CANDIDATE**

Last Name: ...............................................................................................................................

First Name: ..............................................................................................................................

Middle Name: .........................................................................................................................

Title (e.g. Rev, Evang.): ............................................................................................................

Other Title (e.g. Mrs, Chief, Dr.): .............................................................................................

Date of Birth: ..........................................................................................................................

Sex: .........................................................................................................................................

Village and L.G.A. of Origin: ...................................................................................................

Tribe and Language: ..............................................................................................................

Sending Parish: ......................................................................................................................

Sending Presbytery and Synod: .............................................................................................

Qualifications (i.e. Diplomas, Degrees. Etc.): .........................................................................

Next of Kin: ............................................................................................................................

Relationship to You: ...............................................................................................................

Address and Phone Number of Next of Kin: ..........................................................................

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Marital Status: .......................................................................................................................

Name of Spouse: ...................................................................................................................

Address and Phone Number of Spouse: ...............................................................................

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Children (Names, Sex and Birthdays): ...................................................................................

a) ...................................................................................................................................

b) ...................................................................................................................................

c) ...................................................................................................................................

d) ...................................................................................................................................

e) ...................................................................................................................................

**PART II – CANDIDATE’S CHURCH LIFE**

**(To be completed by the Candidate)**

Please write about your activities in the Church, what you have been interested in and the organizations you have been a member of. If you at one time belonged to another denomination, mention what you did in that Church. Please write sentences; do not make lists.

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 **(Signed: Candidate) (Date)**

**PART III – CALL TO THE MINISTRY**

**(To be completed by the Candidate)**

Write a short essay on how you believe yourself to be called by God into the Holy Ministry

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 **(Signed: Candidate) (Date)**

**PART IV - SESSION’S CERTIFICATION**

I certify that this candidate .................................................................................................. has been interviewed by the ............................................................... Parish Session in regards

to his/her Christian faith, character, conduct, marriage and service in the Church. The Session judges him/her to be genuinely called and believe him to be suitable for the ministry of The Presbyterian Church of Nigeria. His/her documents (Baptismal, Confirmation and educational) of which photocopies are attached, have been scrutinized. I also certify that a full report of this candidate is to be found in the ............................................................ Parish Session Minutes Book, Minute(s) no ................................... of ............................ 20 ............... [The extracts from the minutes are to be attached with every page of the extract signed].

Additional comments by the Session:

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***Full Name/Signature* (Date)**

**(Session Clerk)**

**PART IV - MINISTER’S CONFIDENTIAL REPORT**

(To be completed by the candidate’s Minister in the Parish where the candidate is a communicant member on the roll. This application form should be given through the Session Clerk to the Minister who completes this section and then forwards it with supporting documents directly to the Presbytery. (Any minister who fails to ensure that forms completed by the Session get to the Presbytery on time shall be disciplined).

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***Full Name/Signature* (Date)**

**(Signed: Minister)**

**PART V - PRESBYTERY CERTIFICATION**

We certify that ..................................................................................... Presbytery reviewed all the documents concerning ........................................................................................................ from ..................................................... Parish Session. The Presbytery is satisfied with the quality of the candidate and certifies him/her for examination by the Board of Education of the Church and subsequent training for the Holy Ministry, reference to Presbytery Minute no ....................................................... of .................................. 20 ..................... [The extracts from the minutes are to be attached, with every page of the extract signed].

Additional comments by the Presbytery:

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***Full Name/Signature* *Full Name/Signature***

**(Presbytery Clerk) (Presbytery Moderator)**

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**Date Date**

**PART VI - SYNOD CERTIFICATION**

We certify that ................................................................................................................. Synod reviewed all documents concerning .......................................................................................... and the certifications of ........................................ Parish Session and ..................................... Presbytery. The Synod is satisfied with the quality of the candidate and certifies him/her for examination by the Board of Education and subsequent training for the Holy Ministry, reference to Synod of SEC Minutes no ......................................... 20 ................. [The extracts from the minutes are to be attached, with every page of the extract signed].

Additional comments by the Synod:

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***Full Name/Signature* *Full Name/Signature***

**(Synod Clerk) (Synod Moderator)**

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**Date Date**

**PART VII - BOARD OF EDUCATION**

We certify that this candidate ................................................................................................. has satisfied the Board of Education of The Presbyterian Church of Nigeria in all respects and is accepted for training for the Holy Ministry of The Presbyterian Church of Nigeria. Reference to minutes of the Board of Education no ................................................................. of ....................................................... 20 ....................................

Additional Comments of the Board of Education:

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***Full Name/Signature* *Full Name/Signature***

**Signed: Secretary, Board of Education Chairman, Board of Education**

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**Date Date**