



**ima**

International Ministerial Association, Inc.

## **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**International Ministerial Association, Inc.**

PO Box 6644 Louisville, KY 40206

812-550-1240 | [ima@imainfo.org](mailto:ima@imainfo.org)

[www.imainfo.org](http://www.imainfo.org)

Dear Minister Friend,

I bring you Christian greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your interest in the International Ministerial Association (IMA). The IMA has been serving ministers from all over the United States and missionaries around the world since 1954. We welcome your inquiry into joining a fellowship of ministers who are called by God to model biblical values, build long-term relationships, and engage wholeheartedly in ministry.

The IMA is a fellowship that provides oversight and covering as a support system for ministers from around the world. We require accountability and responsibility from our ministers. We encourage all prospective members to familiarize themselves with our constitution. It is expected that those connected with the IMA be people of integrity, respect authority, and work together with fellow ministers.

The IMA is a resource for networking with other ministers and ministries and gives you freedom to join and minister in other religious organizations, associations, and churches. The IMA respects each person's ministerial calling. It is not our purpose to burden ministers with unnecessary organizational rules and restrictions. The IMA promotes love, cooperation, freedom, and fellowship in the body of Christ. We also provide 501c3 coverage for affiliated churches.

The enclosed material should answer most of your questions. However, if you need more information please feel free to call the Home Office at 812-550-1240. You may also email the office at [ima@imainfo.org](mailto:ima@imainfo.org) or visit us online at [www.imainfo.org](http://www.imainfo.org).

It is my desire that you prayerfully consider becoming an active member of the IMA. If you are so directed, please fill out the application in its entirety and mail it to the District Chairperson. A District Chairpersons List is included with the application.

Again, thank you so very much for your inquiry, and may God bless your ministry abundantly!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CHAD HAYES", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rev. Chad Hayes  
IMA National Chairman

## **IMA Membership Application**

1. Please complete all information, answer all questions, and obtain all necessary signatures on the application. Attach a letter of explanation where necessary.
2. Indicate the license that you are applying for and enclose a check (in U.S. Dollars) for the fee to the International Ministerial Association, Inc.
3. Include previous ordination documentation if applying for Ordained Minister status.

**Please Note: INCORRECT OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS MAY BE RETURNED TO THE APPLICANT, RESULTING IN DELAY OF APPROVAL.**

## **Membership Categories**

### **ORDAINED MINISTER**

One who is ordained to perform sacerdotal duties, with supporting valid documentation of date and place of ordination submitted with the application (see bylaws Article 1 Section 3:1.c). The IMA accepts ordinations from other associations and individual churches that are in the United States.

### **LICENSED MINISTER**

Any minister who is not ordained who has been qualified to perform sacerdotal duties (see bylaws Article 1 Section 3:1.b).

### **EXHORTER**

One who is a beginner in ministry (see bylaws Article 1 Section 3:1.a). Exhorters are required by policy to receive religious training and/or pastoral mentoring, pursuant to by-laws Article 1 Section 3:1.a (4), before changing their licensing level.

### **NON-PASTORAL GOLDEN AGER (65+)**

A Senior Citizen/Golden Ager (our term) who is 65 and is not a pastor. Pastors of churches pay the full fee of an Ordained or Licensed Minister regardless of age. In order to receive the reduced fee the applicant must not be the pastor of a church.

### **MISSIONARY ACTIVE**

An active missionary is a foreign missionary who spends the majority of their time in the country where the mission endeavor is located. In order to be eligible for the reduced fee the missionary must be physically involved on the mission field without secular employment or employment in a local church or religious organization.

## Application Instructions

### 1. Complete a **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

### 2. Fill out **PERSONAL INFORMATION FORM**

In addition to completing the Application Form, the applicant **must** complete and include this form.

### 3. Complete **REFERENCE FORMS**

**The two people recommending the applicant must complete a REFERENCE FORM.** Please print the names of the references on the questionnaire page.

It is preferable that IMA members make recommendations. In the event that IMA members do not know the applicant, the application will be considered with the recommendation of their Pastor and/or two ministers who have known the applicant for several years.

### 4. Attach a **PHOTO**

Please send a recent picture with your application to help with recognition and identification. A passport-style photo (available from most drugstores) is preferred but a snapshot is sufficient. Digital photos can be emailed to [ima@imainfo.org](mailto:ima@imainfo.org) with applicant's name in the subject line.

### 5. Submit application to **IMA HOME OFFICE** along with **PAYMENT**

Completed Application Packets, including funds, must be sent to the HOME OFFICE where it will be submitted to District Chair for review and approval.

Application Packets can be:

Mailed to PO Box 6644 Louisville, KY 40206 -or-  
Scanned and emailed to [ima@imainfo.org](mailto:ima@imainfo.org)

Payment can be submitted via check (included in mailed packet) or online at [imainfo.org/membership](http://imainfo.org/membership) (scroll down and click Submit Application Fee Online).

**Please note:**

Those making application **before** September 30 will pay the **full amount** for the current year's membership at the time of application.

Those making application **after** September 30 will pay the **full amount** for the current year's membership and will receive membership for the remainder of the current year plus the following year.

All renewal fees are due on the same date, January 1, according to the By-Laws Article 1, Section 4.2.

Payment can be made by check or online at [imainfo.org](http://imainfo.org).

*IMA Associated Church Membership for 501c3 group coverage is available to churches that have a recognized IMA member as pastor. Please request an application from the Home Office.*



## Membership Application Form

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Please make sure you have familiarized yourself with the APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS on the previous page. Please answer all questions fully.

Please **print** or **type** all answers

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as you would like it to appear on your membership card:

\_\_\_\_\_

Male: \_\_\_\_ Female: \_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Website \_\_\_\_\_

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your position \_\_\_\_\_

Church Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Church Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name of pastor (if other than you) \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Ministry (Pastor, Evangelist, Missionary, etc.):

\_\_\_\_\_

Current Church (attending or pastoring): \_\_\_\_\_

Your Church's Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

Church City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of pastor (if other than you) \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Applied For: Ordained Minister \_\_\_\_\_ Licensed Minister \_\_\_\_\_

Exhorter \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Pastoral Golden-Ager (65+) \_\_\_\_\_ Missionary Active \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDINATION INFORMATION:**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_

By Whom \_\_\_\_\_ Documentation provided \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

**EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:**

High School Graduate? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Attended College or University? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Attended Bible School? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Name of College or University \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Bible School \_\_\_\_\_

Describe Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Years attended \_\_\_\_\_ Degree obtained \_\_\_\_\_

**FULL-TIME FOREIGN MISSIONARY SECTION**

Are you a citizen of the United States? \_\_\_\_\_

Missionary in what country/countries? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you spend a majority of your time as a missionary in this country? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently employed at a church or religious organization? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you secularly employed? \_\_\_\_\_



# Membership Application Form

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## QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Are you married? \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Are you living with your Spouse? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Have you been divorced?: \_\_\_\_\_ (Attach explanation if yes) Remarried?: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Have you ever been charged with a sex crime or sexual misconduct? Yes \_\_\_ No\_\_\_

5. Do you have any type of criminal record? Yes \_\_\_ No\_\_\_ (If yes, attach explanation and include your Social Security Number) *By submitting this form, all IMA applicants agree to undergo a basic background search.*

6. Have you read and are you in agreement with the Constitution/By-Laws of the IMA (available at imainfo.org)? Yes \_\_\_ No\_\_\_ (If no, attach letter of explanation.)

7. Have you read and are you in agreement with the Doctrinal Position of the IMA?

Yes\_\_\_ No \_\_\_ (If NO, attach letter of explanation.)

8. Have you been ordained?: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Where?: \_\_\_\_\_ By whom?: \_\_\_\_\_

*(A copy of your USA Ordination Certificate or some verification MUST be submitted with the application if applying for Ordained Minister)*

## Membership Application and Fees

Credential Level Applied For:

\_\_\_ **ORDAINED MINISTER** | \_\_\_ **LICENSED MINISTER** | \_\_\_ **EXHORTER**

Membership Fee Level

\_\_\_ **ORDAINED MINISTER \$250** | \_\_\_ **LICENSED MINISTER \$225** | \_\_\_ **EXHORTER \$125**  
\_\_\_ **MISSIONARY ACTIVE \$125** | \_\_\_ **NON-PASTORAL GOLDEN AGER (65+) \$ 125**

*All amounts are in US Dollars.*

I affirm that I have answered all of the above questions truthfully. \_\_\_\_\_

*Applicant's Signature*

Present Pastor's Signature (If Applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

*Pastor's Signature*

**District Chairperson's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Chairperson's Signature*

**IMA District:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT: Photocopy & keep for your records. DISTRICT CHAIRPERSON: Photocopy & keep for your records.



## Reference Form

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

Name and contact info of person submitting reference \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I have known the applicant as a: Minister \_\_\_ Friend \_\_\_ Relative \_\_\_ Business \_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

The relationship was \_\_\_\_\_ Close \_\_\_\_\_ Casual \_\_\_\_\_ Professional

To the best of my knowledge and judgment, the applicant is:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Questionable
Christian life & testimony				
Conduct & moral attitude				
Accepting responsibility				
Meeting financial obligations				
Family relationships				
Dependability				
Dedication to the ministry				

How long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you visited the applicant's home? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

In your opinion does the applicant exhibit a "call" to the ministry? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

*All information contained in this reference form will be held in strict confidence.*

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Dependability				
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How long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you visited the applicant's home? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

In your opinion does the applicant exhibit a "call" to the ministry? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments:

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

*All information contained in this reference form will be held in strict confidence.*

## **Policy And Procedures: Membership**

*An excerpt from the IMA Policy & Procedures Manual*

### E. MEMBERSHIP

#### E.1 Applications

The IMA is an association of ministers. The Application for membership is an application for a ministerial license. Therefore membership is reserved to those holding an International Ministerial Association ministerial license.

The application consists of an application form, two reference forms, and a data base information form. A picture of the applicant must be included with the application as specified by the application.

The appropriate annual fee must be included with the application at the time the application is submitted to the district board. Those making application before September 30, will pay the full amount with the application to cover processing, fellowship card and a laminated certificate. Those making application after September 30, will also pay the full amount with the application to cover processing, fellowship card and including a laminated certificated. However, those applications received after September 30, will be considered as processed in the following year even though the license may be issued in the current year. In essence the entire fee is due with the application regardless of the date.

#### E.1.a Ordination Requirements

##### NEW APPLICANTS

The IMA may accept ordinations from other ministerial associations or organizations when new applicants present the proper documentation. The Credentials Chairman will make the determination. The IMA will not accept ordinations from individual churches and associations that are not in the United States .The IMA reserves the right to reject questionable ordinations. (9/4/07)

New applicants desiring to be recognized by this association, as Ordained Ministers, must present a Certificate of Ordination or other documentation with the application. Those who make application without the proper ordination documentation will be accepted as applying for Ministerial License. The designation may be changed when the proper documentation is presented. (9/4/07)

## CURRENT MEMBERS

Members desiring to be ordained by the I.M.A. shall complete an “Application for Ordination” as prescribed by the National Board. The “Application for Ordination” shall be obtained from and submitted to the District Chairman where applicant resides. If the applicant resides in an unorganized part of the United States, the application will be obtained from and submitted to the national headquarters.

Ordination ceremonies will not be conducted during the National Conference. In order for the ordination to be recognized by the IMA, one or more officers of the IMA must participate in the ceremony. The officer must be from the ordination candidate’s District Board or hold office on the National Board.

### E.1.b Educational Requirements

#### Exhorter

There is no educational requirement for application to ministerial license at exhorter’s level. The exhorter must be mentored by a licensed minister or ordained minister in accordance with Article 1, section 3.a.2

#### Licensed Ministers

Members holding an “exhorter license” must complete a ministry course or be mentored by an ordained minister for a period of one year prior to applying for “licensed minister” status. Documentation of completion must be submitted to the district chairman for approval.