



PARISH  
MINISTRY  
ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

**Central States Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

**FORM 2: CONGREGATIONAL ENDORSEMENT AND SUPPORT FOR  
APPLICATION TO PARISH MINISTRY ASSOCIATE PROGRAM**

*To be completed by Pastor and Congregation Council Officer  
Please complete Parts I, II, and III*

**To Congregation Council and Pastor:**

*The Parish Ministry Associate Program develops the ministry of the laity. Local congregations raise up PMA students from their midst in order that the PMA might serve in that congregation or another congregation, institution, or agency as leader. Your endorsement of this individual implies that you are invested in his/her education and formation, and that you will help the individual discover his/her ministry among you.*

*The individual is applying for the Parish Ministry Associate Program, which requires the completion of requirements for certification over an approximate three year period. During this period, s/he will complete at least nine courses, attend the annual PMA Convocations, explore various forms of ministry in cooperation with his/her mentor (often the individual's Parish Pastor), and converse with the mentor as part of the discernment process.*

**Part I**

*(to be completed by Pastor)*

**Applicant's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**City/State/ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Received into Your Congregation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Means of Receipt (i.e., baptism, transfer, etc.)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Give a brief history of the candidate's relationship to the congregation.**

**What qualities for leadership in a congregation, institution, or agency does the individual possess or lack?**

**Are there any personal factors, including health, that might affect this person's service as a PMA?**

*Please attach a separate sheet to convey information that you wish to share for the application review.*

**Pastor's Recommendation**

I recommend the applicant for acceptance into the PMA Program in accordance with the standards established by the ELCA and the Central States Synod.

**Yes**

**No**

I recognize the requirement that the individual be mentored by me or another rostered leader. My intent is that the mentoring will be by:

**Me**

**Another rostered leader**

Name of other rostered leader who will mentor:  
Position of other rostered leader:

Pastor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:

Congregation Name:

Congregation Street Address:

Congregation City & State:

Congregation Telephone:

**Part 2: To be Completed by Congregational Council Officer:**

. The congregational council at the meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_ acted to recommend the applicant in accordance with the standards established by ELCA and the Central States Synod.

- YES
- NO

President or Designee Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title:            Date:

Telephone Number:

**Part 3: To be Completed by Congregational Officer:**

An applicant for the PMA Program commits considerable time and effort to training/education as well as service. There are expenses for this training/education. It is suggested that the Congregation commit its support to the individual in accordance with its gifts and resources.

This congregation commits to the following support for the individual.

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for each course completed for PMA credit. (the costs include tuition which is usually about \$150 plus books and materials) At least 9 courses will be completed to satisfy the educational requirement.
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for costs of attending the required annual PMA Convocation. The costs usually total about \$80 for registration plus transportation.
- For other costs associated with training/education as a PMA. (These may include costs for conferences/workshops and for other books/ materials) Our commitment for support is listed below:  
List the \$ support (or limits on Support) by category:

President or Designee Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**This form should be submitted to the Central States Synod by the applicant along with his/her application form accompanied by the application fee of \$25.00.**