



DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE PROGRAM

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

MERCER UNIVERSITY

3001 Mercer University Drive • Atlanta, Georgia 30341-4115

phone: (888) 471-9922

fax: (678) 547-6478

email: theadmiss@mercer.edu

theology.mercer.edu

An Invitation from the Dean:

The mission statement of McAfee School of Theology defines its mission as “equipping persons called of God for effective ministry, spiritual maturity and the lifelong process of theological inquiry.” Because the call to ministry is an ongoing call, and the challenges and contexts of ministry change continually, theological education must also be a continuing and ongoing process. Through the Doctor of Ministry degree, McAfee School of Theology offers a program of study that is designed for persons in ministry who are looking for an opportunity:

- to study with professors who are committed to both scholarship and the church,
- to have sustained dialogue and to build friendships with other ministers in a collegial context,
- to renew and deepen their spiritual and intellectual resources, and
- to develop expertise in areas that will equip them to meet the challenge of ministry in the twenty-first century.

If this is the kind of experience you are seeking, I hope you will get in touch with the Doctor of Ministry office at McAfee.

We realize that the decision to pursue a Doctor of Ministry requires a deep commitment on your part and support and sacrifices on the part of your family and your church family. In response, we commit to be partners with you, to provide you with the finest academic, spiritual and professional education experience, and to walk with you on this part of your journey as you respond to God’s guidance in your life.

Cordially,



R. Alan Culpepper, Ph.D.

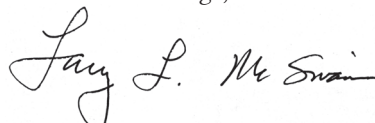
From the Associate Dean:

Greetings from the Doctor of Ministry office at McAfee School of Theology! We are pleased you have chosen to explore the possibilities of continuing learning for enhancing your ministry effectiveness and contributing to the profession of your calling. Our pledge to you is to maintain clear and caring communication with you throughout your McAfee study to ensure success in each learning process of McAfee’s Doctor of Ministry program.

Our recommendation is that you explore with us the requirements of the program with a visit to our campus or telephone conversations with us. We welcome your questions.

Please give careful attention to each detail in the application form. Your application will provide a profile to the faculty for understanding your academic and ministry accomplishments and your goals for future study. Your admission will include you in a community of faith, spiritual growth, and friendship that we pray will strengthen you in the high calling of God in Jesus Christ.

Grace and Blessings,



Larry L. McSwain

McAFEE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE PROGRAM

The Doctor of Ministry degree is the highest professional degree offered by a theological school. McAfee School of Theology's program invites pastors, church staff and persons in a variety of ministries to join with colleagues in working for excellence in ministerial leadership by:

- ✦ Emphasizing collegial learning with professors and peers.
- ✦ Intense study in core Biblical, theological and contextual understandings taught specifically for Doctor of Ministry students..
- ✦ Providing a content-rich Ministry Coaching experience to enhance skills in ministry leadership.
- ✦ Writing a final project thesis that makes a unique contribution to a particular aspect of ministry and enhancing the student's practice of ministry in his or her field.

APPLYING FOR ADMISSION *to the* DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE PROGRAM

We are pleased that you are interested in the Doctor of Ministry Degree Program. The following instructions and materials in this booklet should simplify the process for you. Please be aware, however, that we will need to have the application for admission, the application fee, the letters of recommendation, and your transcripts before we can process your application.



ELIGIBILITY

Applicants for admission to the Doctor of Ministry Degree Program must:

- Hold the Master of Divinity degree (or its academic equivalent) from a theological seminary or divinity school fully accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (or recognized as such, if not a North American institution).
- Be engaged in full-time active ministry, parochial or otherwise, in which the applicant can complete meaningful research integrating Biblical, theological, and pastoral insights into the practice of specific ministry.
- Have served in full-time ministry for at least three years following receipt of the basic M.Div. degree.
- Have official transcripts from all educational institutions previously attended sent to the D.Min. office. A grade point average of 3.25 from all M.Div work is normally expected.
- Score competitively on the Miller Analogies Test (MAT). We regard test results as helpful indicators of academic ability and achievement when considered thoughtfully among many other factors. A score on the MAT in or above the fiftieth (50th) percentile is normally expected. If English is a second language, a score of at least 215 (new scale) on the TOEFL is required.
- Provide three letters of reference in which assessment is made of the applicant's ministerial practice.
- Write a personal essay describing your call to ministry including a theological self-reflection and a tentative sketch of a final ministry project.

ADMISSION PROCEDURE CHECKLIST

- Complete the Application for Admission and return it with a check for \$50.00. Make check payable to McAfee School of Theology. This is a non-refundable application fee.
- Provide a Recommendation Form signed by you to three persons qualified to assess you and your skills in ministry. Each Recommendation Form should be mailed directly by the recommender to the D. Min. office. We suggest you provide stamped, pre-addressed envelopes to them.
- Answer personal and biographical essay questions located on page 7 of the application.
- Complete the career assessment information on page 7 of the application.
- Arrange to take the Miller Analogies Test and the TOEFL, if English is a second language for the student. Have scores sent to the D.Min. office.
- Have official transcripts sent from all educational institutions attended. A grade point average of 3.25 from all M.Div. work is normally expected, but a lower GPA will not eliminate you from consideration.

All of the above entry requirements will compose a profile of the applicant which will be reviewed by the D.Min. studies committee. Each applicant will be notified by the Associate Dean when an admissions decision has been made.

McAfee accepts applications from all denominations provided applicants fall within the above guidelines. McAfee does not discriminate according to gender, age, ethnic origin or race. Applicants with special needs must comply with Mercer University's policy on Special Needs.

All applicants are encouraged to visit our campus. To arrange a campus visit please call the Doctor of Ministry office at (678) 547-6412 or toll free at (888) 471-9922, ext. 6412.



APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE PROGRAM

Please print clearly or type. Optional information, indicated by an asterisk (*), is to be used for statistical purposes only. Remember that an application requires a \$50.00 non-refundable fee. Applications will not be processed without this fee.

A P P L I C A N T D A T A

Social Security # _____

Name _____
Last or Family First Middle

Current Address _____
P. O. Box or Street City State Zip code

Permanent Address _____
P. O. Box or Street City State Zip code

Home Telephone (_____) _____ Work Telephone (_____) _____

Citizenship (if other than United States) _____

Religious/Denominational affiliation _____

Email address _____

A C A D E M I C D A T A

Are you a former Mercer University student? Yes No

Have you previously applied to McAfee School of Theology? Yes No

Expected enrollment date: _____ Year

What is your estimated M.Div. GPA? _____

O N E official transcript of your academic record must be sent by the registrar of each institution of higher education previously attended. Transcripts for former Mercer students are on file in the Records Office and will be requested by McAfee School of Theology.

Name of Institution	Location	Month and Year of Attendance	Major	Degree (or number of hours completed)	Date of Degree
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

W O R K E X P E R I E N C E D A T A

List employment and military service. Omit summer and part-time work unless directly relevant to your educational goals.

Employer	Location	Inclusive Dates	Kind or Level of Work
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

REFERENCES

Provide a Recommendation Form signed by you to three persons qualified to assess you and your skills in ministry. Each Recommendation Form should be mailed directly by the recommender to the D.Min. office. Please list their names and addresses below.

Name and Position	Address and Telephone #
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

I certify that the information given in this application is true, correct, and complete.

_____	_____
Signature of Applicant	Date

McAfee School of Theology complies with all applicable federal and state nondiscrimination laws and does not engage in prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, age or disability.

*The following data is requested for statistical reports. This information is not evaluated for purpose of eligibility for admission.

Gender: Male Female Birth Date _____ / _____ / _____

Marital Status: Married Single Divorced

Name of Spouse _____ Date of Marriage _____ / _____ / _____

Ethnic Background *(please check 1 or more of the following)*:

Are you Hispanic/Latino? Yes No

American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander White Black or African American

What former names might appear on your academic records? _____

Current Church Membership: _____

City

State

PERSONAL/AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Please answer the following items on separate sheets of paper giving attention to style and content.

1. Give an account of your Christian pilgrimage.
2. Describe your call to ministry.
3. What specific competencies in ministry (preaching, pastoral care, leadership, etc.) would you like to study to improve your ministry practice? How do you see a D.Min. degree enhancing your skills in ministry?
4. Describe the ministry goals that have led you to pursue the Doctor of Ministry degree.

CAREER ASSESSMENT PROFILE

Please complete the following questions. Reflect on each question in terms of your overall career in ministry. Use additional sheets of paper to answer the questions.

1. Evaluate your educational history. What part of your educational pilgrimage appealed to you the most/least? What motivated you in terms of attaining grades? What type of educational setting/format is most conducive to the way in which you learn? If you had to do it over again, how would you approach your educational process?
2. Evaluate your work experiences so far. How do you feel about your career in ministry? What is your favorite part of ministry? What is your least favorite part of ministry?
3. Is your personality well suited for the career in which you now find yourself? Do you feel conflicted in your ministry, or is there a sense of confirmation that you have chosen your career well?
4. Given all the options available in ministry, what do you envision as the pinnacle of your career, and what do you feel you need to do to achieve that goal?
5. What are the resources that you use to assess your ministry? How often do you involve others in that assessment? What are the standards that you have developed to assess your current ministry? Do you feel these standards give you adequate assessment? If not, why? How have these resources/standards influenced changes in your ministry?
6. Why do you wish to attain the Doctor of Ministry degree?



RECOMMENDATION FORM DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE PROGRAM

TO THE APPLICANT

Please complete this section before giving it to references you have requested to evaluate you. Then submit the recommendation form to the respondent.

Application for the _____ Year

Social Security # _____

Name _____

Address _____

Home Telephone (_____) _____ Work Telephone (_____) _____

I waive _____ / I do not waive _____ all future rights to review this form once submitted to McAfee School of Theology and agree to respect the confidentiality of the remarks made by the respondent.

Signature of Applicant

TO THE RECOMMENDER

The student named above is applying for admission to McAfee School of Theology Doctor of Ministry Degree Program. The School of Theology is committed to training Christian leaders for local ministry. Your recommendation should refer to the applicant's Christian commitment through ministry. It should also highlight distinguishing intellectual and personal traits, character, integrity and fitness for the ministry, as well as creative and special talents of the applicant. Statements will be kept confidential and made available only to those officers directly concerned with admission to the Doctor of Ministry Degree Program. You will note the statement above signifying whether or not the applicant waives all future rights to review this form once it has been submitted to the School of Theology. Thank you for helping us evaluate the qualifications of this candidate. After completing this form, mail it directly to: DOCTOR OF MINISTRY OFFICE, McAFEE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY, 3001 MERCER UNIVERSITY DRIVE, ATLANTA, GA 30341-4115.

Please complete the following sections.

A. KNOWLEDGE OF THE APPLICANT

1. How long have you known the applicant? _____ Years _____ Months
2. How well do you know the applicant? Casually Well Very Well
3. How long has the applicant been a minister in this setting? _____ Years _____ Months
4. Describe the applicant's practice of ministry in his/her current ministry setting.

B. ABILITY OF THE APPLICANT

	Below average	Average	Somewhat above average	Good	Very Good	Truly exceptional	N/A
Christian Commitment							
Leadership Potential							
Research/Study skills							
Comparison with other ministers							
Persistence							
Ability to work with others							
Speaking skills							
Writing skills							
Integrity/Character							

1. Please tell us any information related to the character, temperament or physical and mental health that should be considered by an Admissions Committee in considering the applicant for advanced theological study.

2. Would you recommend this person as a candidate for advanced degree work?

- Yes, with no reservations
 Yes, with reservations
 No

If no, or with reservations, please explain.

C. Please comment on the candidate's depth of Christian commitment, relationship to the church, gifts for ministry, community involvement, ability to serve others and other pertinent information you believe to be important to the Admissions Committee in considering this applicant. Attach any additional pages you require.

Your name _____ Title _____

Your signature _____

Your address _____

Your institution or organization name _____

Telephone (_____) _____ Date _____



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