

V. PERSONAL ESSAY

Please attach a 5-8 page personal essay (double-spaced) which includes:

- A. Reflection on the applicant's spiritual formation
- B. Testimony to a relationship with Jesus Christ
- C. Clear call to Christian ministry
- D. A comprehensive resume which includes all ministry positions and/or opportunities and contains an honest assessment of the applicant's ministry experience.
- E. A detailed summary of the applicant's reasons for pursuing the Doctor of Ministry Degree, and the effects the applicant sees the studies will have on their life and their ministry.
- F. A tentative project proposal topic. Please use the Turabian Writing Style. See Kate L. Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, Dissertations—7th Edition*. ISBN-10: 0-226-82337-7 (Spring 2007).

VI. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

List below the names, addresses, and contact information of the three persons to whom you are sending the enclosed reference forms. They should be people who are able to assess your current ministry and/or your ability to pursue the Doctor of Ministry Program.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

VII. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A. General admission requirements for the Doctor of Ministry applicant:

1. Hold the Master of Divinity Degree or its equivalent from a United States Department of Education accredited college, university, or seminary.
2. Have at least three years of ministry experience (prior to or beyond the Master of Divinity Degree or its equivalent).

B. Equivalency includes the following:

- A. The completion of sixty to ninety (60 – 90) graduate hours in theological or related studies which has culminated in the awarding of at least one Master's degree.
- B. The prospective student can petition ASOT for provisional admission while they satisfy any deficiencies prior to matriculation into the Doctor of Ministry Program.
- C. The completion of two (2) graduate theological or related degrees with one (1) of the degrees having a concentration in Christian Education ministry or a related discipline.
- D. The completion of a graduate theological degree and sufficient units of Clinical Pastoral Education at a site accredited by the *Association for Clinical Pastoral Education*, completing seventy-five to ninety (75-90) graduate hours.
- E. Demonstrate the ability to do doctoral work by earning a 3.0 or higher grade point average on previous graduate study.
- F. Take the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) if the applicant's grade point average is below 2.5 for previous college, university, or seminary and demonstrates the ability to do doctoral work.

VIII. PROCEDURES

- A. Complete the application of admission form.
- B. Include a \$50.00 application fee (non-refundable) along with the application materials. The application will NOT be considered if the fee is NOT included. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS.
- C. Submit the following documents and/or items as part of the application process:
 1. Official sealed transcripts sent to ASOT directly from all colleges, universities, and seminaries attended by the applicant.
 2. Three (3) letters of reference sent directly to ASOT by those individuals identified on the application form.
 3. A 5-8 page personal essay as outlined in the Application Form.

4. Millers Analogies Test (MAT) score. (*MAT testing is ONLY necessary for applications with a GPA below 2.8*)
- D. Applicants will also be notified by the admissions committee when their application is complete or if additional application materials are required for admission. The Doctor of Ministry Committee will review all materials submitted, reach an admission decision, and notify applicants within thirty (30) days via the United States Postal Service. If accepted, a \$200.00 matriculation fee must be remitted to ASOT immediately to reserve a place in the upcoming semester.
- E. Tuition for the academic year - \$3,000.00, * Financial Aid available for qualified applicants.
- F. Continuing Matriculation Fee - \$300.00
Students not enrolled in the Doctor of Ministry Program for an entire academic year are required to pay a matriculation fee of \$150.00 per session in order to be eligible to continue in the program.
- G. Graduation Fee - \$400.00
- H. Late Registration Fee - \$50.00
- I. Colloquium Fee - \$600.00 per session: *Students must attend at least three colloquiums. The time and place will be determined by the Doctor of Ministry Director.*
- J. Students are responsible for travel, lodging, and meals during colloquiums.

IX. DEADLINES

All applications received by the Doctor of Ministry will be considered for the next available session, UNLESS otherwise indicated by the applicant. Class sizes are limited to twenty (20) participants.

X. ADMISSIONS

The Apex School of Theology does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender, age, disability, or veteran status in the administration of any of the policies of ASOT, including admissions, education programs, and financial aid.

XI. PROGRAM INFORMATION

Outcomes

The Doctor of Ministry program at Apex School of Theology is designed to assist the student in five, (5), related competency tracks:

- I. BIBLICAL STUDIES: Mentoring Relationships**
- II. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: The New Millennium Curriculum**
- III. PASTORAL, SOCIAL and CONGREGATION MINISTRY: Leadership, Preaching, Evangelism, and Church Growth**
- IV. SOCIETY and RELIGION: Global Spiritual Formation**
- V. THEOLOGY and ETHICS: The Post Modern Era Culture**

Requirements

Required Courses	24 Hours
DM 710: Transforming Ministry: Spiritual Formation	3
DM 720: Biblical Principles that Shape Ministry: Mentoring Relationships	3
DM 730: Ethics and Culture in the New Millennium	3
DM 740: Christian Ministry for a Post-Modern Culture	3
*DM 745: Required Electives (<i>Upon approval a maximum of 6 hours can be used</i>): These may be met through classroom study, directed study, or experiential event. These courses would assist the student in the technical and practical areas of their D.Min. Projects.	6
DM 750: Colloquiums (2)	6
DM 760: Professional Doctoral Dissertation Project	6

Elective Courses	12 Hours
DM 810: The Nature of God in the Old Testament	3
DM 820: Jesus Christ and the Gospels in the New Testament	3
DM 830: Pastoral Issues in the Epistles	3
DM 840: Christian Education Models in the New Millennium	3
DM 850: Preaching That Teaches	3
DM 855: Bringing Biblical Characters to Life	3
DM 860: Contemporary Issues in Theology	3
DM 870: Christian Theology in a Pluralistic World	3
DM 880: Christian Ethics : Values in the Post Modern Era	3
DM 890: The Church in a Changing World	3
DM 895: Ministry for Faith-Community Building	3
DM 900: Leadership Development for Empowering Ministry	3
DM 905: Faith-Based Counseling	3
DM 910: Media Ministry	3
DM 920: Church Growth	3
DM 925: Global Missionary Ministry	3
DM 930: Virtual Faith-Community: Cyberspace	3
DM 940: Transfer Credits (maximum of nine (9))	9
DM 990: Faculty Directed Research	3

Components

- **Class requirements** – Reading (2,500 pages per course) and other assignments chosen by the professor. Syllabi will be made available to students online and via mail.
- **Residency** – **THREE**, four-day interactive teaching colloquiums on campus during site/time chosen by the Director of Doctoral Studies are a requirement.
- **Post-residency Doctor of Ministry Dissertation Project** – Integrative ministry and writing Project which draws from assigned readings, class interactions, as well as additional research. Post-residency projects are due sixty (60) days prior to graduation.

Residency

Residency weeks begin at 2:00pm on Monday afternoon and conclude at 3:00pm on Thursday afternoon. This allows students the opportunity to fulfill their ministry responsibilities on Sunday evening and still arrive promptly for the Monday class, as well as return home for final preparations for the following Sunday.

Daily schedules for the residency week are:

Monday	2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday	10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.
Thursday	9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Faculty Directed Research

Students may register for two (2) Faculty Directed Research classes during their doctoral studies at ASOT. Approval of the Faculty Directed Research will be determined by: (I) the submission of Faculty Directed Research Petition requesting Faculty Directed Research; (II) the student's ability to do independent research as demonstrated by their academic record; and (III) the availability of a research advisor.

XI. CERTIFICATION

I certify that I have thoroughly reviewed all sections within this application and that all the information provided in this application is true, correct, and complete. I understand that false or incomplete statements in these materials or in the admissions process are grounds for denial of admission or dismissal from school. I give the Apex School of Theology permission to validate all information in these materials.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

PLEASE RETURN ALL COMPLETED APPLICATION MATERIALS TO:

Doctor of Ministry Office of Admissions
Apex School of Theology
2945 Miami Boulevard Suite 114
Durham, North Carolina 27703
(919) 572-1625
(919) 361-1290 (FAX) EMAIL: www.Apexsot.edu

APEX SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Apex School of Theology was founded in 1995 as Apex Academy School of Religion and later changed its name to Apex School of Theology (ASOT). The school was founded by the Reverend Dr. Joseph E. Perkins at the historic, Apex First Baptist Church, Apex NC, where he is the pastor. ASOT outgrew the church facilities and moved to 5104 Revere Road, Durham, NC in 2002. In 2006, the school relocated to the heart of Research Triangle Park, 2945 South Miami Boulevard, Suite 114, Durham, NC. Apex is approved to offer its degree programs on campus and online by Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools, (TRACS), located in Forest, Virginia, which is accredited by the United States Department of Education. Apex offers Federal Pell Grants, federal loans, Veterans Administration Educational Benefits, Presidential Scholarships, and interest-free payment plans to qualified students. The school also offers the Master of Arts in Christian Counseling Degree, which is being sought by Christian professionals across the nation. Apex is one of the few private, freestanding theological undergraduate and graduate schools to offer its degree programs online.

There are a number of excellent religious and divinity schools in the North Carolina Research Triangle Park area. However, several reasons motivated the founding of ASOT: To reach and serve area clergy who wanted formal theological training, and to meet the educational needs of lay leaders in the faith community who could not afford the tuition of other seminaries. Our students are from a number of denominations in the faith community. They serve small, medium, and large churches as pastors, Christian educators, teachers, chaplains, and nursing/rest home providers of ministry. Many of them are bright and brilliant adult learners who are destined to use the training they receive here to enlarge the Kingdom of God in the earth (Matthew 6:10). ASOT provides them an opportunity to fulfill their “call” to Christian service. Our motto is “Training Church Leaders for the 21st Century.”

The faculty and staff of ASOT have benefited from the faith community and we serve here at a very minimal stipend as a way of giving back something to the community that nurtured us. This is how we keep the tuition affordable for those who wish to receive a Christian-based education from an accredited school. We achieved accreditation with all of its cost while holding tuition at a bare minimum. Most of our staff and faculty have been here from the beginning and there is a long list of qualified people on the waiting list who wish to be associated with ASOT. All of our faculty members have either a master or terminal degree from an accredited institution. Our students are serving in many capacities in the faith community. A formal education allows them to sharpen their skills and/or learn new skills. We believe we have been effective in filling our niche in theological education.

Apex School of Theology offers Distance Education (ApexDE). Through (ApexDE), you can earn your theological degree 100% online. You can complete your coursework at your own convenience. Apex has articulation agreements with Seminary Extension of the Southern Baptist Convention and several other educational institutions. (ApexDE) offers students the opportunity to acquire the same levels of knowledge and competencies as those students completing its regular on-campus degree programs. Programs that we offer on-campus and online are: (Associate Degree in Christian Education, Bachelor Degree in Theology, Master of Christian Education Degree, Master of Arts in Christian Counseling Degree, Master of Divinity Degree, and Doctor of Ministry Degree). Off-campus extension continuing education programs, independent study programs, and life-long learning opportunities are also available. In January 2008, we were approved to start the Doctor of Ministry Program. The program is designed to enhance ministry skills of practicing clergy-persons in the areas of Christian ministry.

Apex School of Theology
2945 South Miami Boulevard, Suite 114
Durham, North Carolina 27703-8024
919-572-1625 (office) 919-572-1762 (fax)

www.Apexsot.edu
info@Apexsot.edu