

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PASTORAL COUNSELORS

Religious Endorsement for clergy and lay pastoral caregivers

From Applicant: _____
(Name/Address) _____

Date Applicant's Signature

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO ME

The American Association of Pastoral Counselors seeks to maintain the highest standards of quality for its membership. When a minister* (see definition below from AAPC Bylaws) seeks membership, the Association requires clear validation of both his/her Religious Endorsing Body and his/her pastoral care skills. While it is the responsibility of AAPC to determine the applicant's pastoral care credentials, the Religious Endorsing Body determines the applicant's endorsement for ministry. Therefore, you are being requested to complete this form.

Name of Religious Endorsing Body: _____

Name & Title of Endorsing Official: _____

According to the Bylaws of the AAPC, this endorsement should meet the following stipulations:

- A. Such an endorsement must come only from officials or agencies that are designated by their Religious Endorsing Body leaders as appropriate endorsers for ministry.
- B. This must be an endorsement stating that the applicant is in good standing and is serving in an approved ministry.

Title & Description of Applicant's Ministry: _____

- _____
1. Does the applicant's ministry, as described above, have your Religious Endorsing Body's endorsement? Yes No
 2. Is the ministry of the candidate recognized by your Religious Endorsing Body as a regular or specialized ministry ?
 3. In your Religious Endorsing Body, who is the person or group who annually reviews the applicant's ministry? _____
 4. If no regular review is conducted, in what way is the applicant accountable to your Religious Endorsing Body? _____
- _____

Date

Signature of Endorsing Official

* **MINISTER** - The word "Minister" shall refer to a person who has been authorized by a religious endorsing body through ordination, consecration, or equivalent means (as determined by the person's religious endorsing body and attested by the appropriate officer of the person's religious endorsing body) to exercise specific religious leadership and service within and on behalf of the religious endorsing body which furthers its purpose and mission and is supported by a covenant with a local religious body which will oversee his/her work in ministry.