Guide to Applying for Recognized Missionary Status with the Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada



Service as an EMCC Recognized Missionary

When an applicant has been approved as an EMCC Recognized Missionary, it means that they are serving with another organization, however, have also successfully completed an application process with the EMCC to recognize their call in ministry and enable them to contact EMCC churches for support raising. They have been found to possess the skills, calling, competency, character, and theological background necessary for effective ministry in the EMCC. The applicant also has references who attest to his or her suitability for ministry.

Who is it for?

The EMCC Recognized Missionary status is intended for a person who meets the qualifications as stated in the EMCC *Articles of Governance, 4.4.5.2. Missionary Recognition* "A recognized missionary (ministry worker) is a person who is serving with a recognized mission agency or organization and who is not supervised by EMCC. This person may apply to EMCC for this recognition. Upon approval, the recognition will remain in effect as long as the person:

- retains membership in good standing in a member or affiliate congregation of the EMCC;
- has the continuing endorsement of the EMCC congregation where membership is held;
- 3. remains active in ministry and remains in good standing with that agency:
- 4. subscribes to the EMCC Bylaw and the Articles of Faith and Practice;
- 5. reports annually through written reports to the Calgary office;
- 6. pays the annual fee set by EMCC."

* Please note – spouses of applicants are required to submit their own application form.

Standard Steps and Requirements

Follow this brochure as you complete your application. When all of the boxes have been check-marked you will know that you have met the basic requirements and have prepared and supplied everything for a complete application.

- 1. Hold EMCC membership □
- 2. Possess sufficient training and ministry preparation for the field □
- 3. Consult your local church pastor
- 4. Complete Missionary Service Pre-Application Questionnaire □
- 5. Consult with an EMCC WP Director or Regional Minister □
- 6. Complete an EMCC Recognized Missionary Service application package □
- 7. Receive approval by the EMCC WP Leadership Team □

1. EMCC membership

Hold membership in good standing for not less than one year in a local Evangelical Missionary Church. If you are in process for membership and are from another denomination, the above requirement may be waived but you are expected to take immediate steps to membership.

2. Training and Ministry Preparation

Comprehensive knowledge of the Bible and solid working knowledge of EMCC doctrine. Proven record of ministry and service in your local church. Appropriate training specific to the chosen mission field.

3. Consultation with your local church pastor.

Contact your EMCC pastor to discuss your call to global ministry and your suitability for work in that area. Request a written recommendation from a) the pastor and b) the church board.

4. Complete a Missionary Service Pre-Application Questionnaire

This questionnaire is a pre-screening tool to determine if you are a suitable applicant for EMCC WP Missionary status.

Obtain the questionnaire via the EMCC website: www.emcc.ca or by contacting the EMCC WP office. Complete the application and send it to the EMCC WP office via mail or email.

5. Consultation with an EMCC WP Director or Regional Minister

If you are deemed to be a suitable applicant, you will be contacted by the EMCC WP Director or Regional Minister (RM) in your general area.¹ Expect to discuss your conversion and your call to ministry. You will be asked for a ☐ current resume; and ☐ philosophy of ministry²; and two official written recommendations; ☐ one from the board of your local church³ and ☐ one from your Pastor.

6. Complete an EMCC Recognized Missionary Service Application Package

Upon successful contact with an EMCC WP Director or RM and receipt of satisfactory documentation, you will be invited to become an applicant for recognized missionary status and you will receive an application package by mail or e-mail as you prefer.

Components of the Missionary Service application package:

For study

- EMCC Position Papers
- EMCC Bylaw, Articles of Faith & Practice, Articles of Governance
- Book Common Bonds

For preparation

- ☐ Christian Service Application
- Doctrinal Questionnaire
- Biographical Snapshot

Additional Application Requirements⁴

- □ Provide written recommendation and status level from the organization with whom you are serving.
- Choose four references (see Section IV. pg 6 of Christian Service Application) and send them the form supplied in your packet and request that they be filled out and sent to the EMCC Office in Calgary, AB.
- Review, and if in agreement, sign the Missionary's Covenant.
- Write a family and faith background and include a recent picture of yourself or of you and your family.
- □ Read Common Bonds⁵ and prepare a onepage book report.

Send your completed application, along with the application of your spouse, including all attachments to the EMCC WP office.

7. Receive approval from the EMCC WP Leadership Team.

Upon receipt of all required documentation, the EMCC WP Leadership Team will review your application. You and your spouse may need to attend an interview or approval may be granted without an interview. Those who are given final approval will receive written confirmation.

What's Next?

Successful applicants are now **EMCC Recognized Missionaries.**

- You will prepare a missionary profile.
- You will be authorized to contact EMCC Churches
- You are able to send in prayer requests for the EMCC weekly prayer bulletin



Endnotes

- See the website at <u>www.emcc.ca</u> for contact information for the WP Director and Regional Ministers.
- Philosophy of Ministry –prepare a brief written overview of your philosophy of crosscultural ministry.
- 3. Recommendation of the church board must come by formal resolution of the board that is to be quoted in the letter.
- All of these items are requested in the Christian Service Application. They are listed here to help provide a realistic overview of the application process.
- 5. Common Bonds EMCC denominational history book is free of charge for applicants who pick it up at one of the EMCC offices.

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