



# BMA SEMINARY

BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

P. O. Box 670, 1530 East Pine St. Jacksonville, TX 75766  
(903) 586-2501 Monday-Friday 8:00 am to 4:45 pm Central Time Fax (903) 586-0378  
[bmats.edu](http://bmats.edu)

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## APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION PACKET

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**APPLY ONE OF TWO WAYS:**

1. this paper application
2. online application on [bmats.edu](http://bmats.edu)

*Within the context of its theological convictions and mission, Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, national and ethnic origin, or disability in administration of educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and other school-administered programs.*

*BMA Seminary reserves the right to cancel the admission of any applicant who demonstrates behavior, after acceptance but before enrollment, which would have caused the BMA Seminary to deny admission had the behavior occurred earlier.*

# APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

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**THIS IS A SELF-MANAGED APPLICATION** You control the gathering and submitting of all credentials necessary to complete your application. Please collect all documentation required and submit it to BMA Seminary in a single, oversized envelope along with a **\$35 application fee**.

These instructions are designed to answer some of the questions commonly asked about applying for admission. If you have questions that are not answered by these instructions or the catalog, please call the Admissions Office at (903) 586-2501.

Before applying, you should first read the BMA Seminary catalog regarding the degree program in which you are interested and the Admission Requirements section. Applicants who are not U.S. residents should also read the English Proficiency section.

The application and supporting materials should be submitted **no earlier** than 15 months before the date of anticipated enrollment.

All application items must be received in the Admissions Office **no later** than the following dates:

**Fall Semester** (begins the first week of September; application deadline is **July 1**)

**January Inter-Semester** (Master's In Motion courses offered in January; application deadline is **November 1**)

**Spring Semester** (begins around the fourth week of January; application deadline is **November 1**)

**Summer Semester** (sessions begin June through August; application deadline is **April 1**)

We encourage you to apply at least four to eight months before your expected enrollment date. Applications may be submitted after the deadline but will be considered and processed as time allows. If you are planning on applying for Financial Aid, your application must be approved by June 1 for the Fall semester and September 1 for the Spring semester. International students must have Financial Aid Applications approved by January 1 for the upcoming fall semester.

The following instructions correspond to the specified sections of the Application for Admission.

**1. PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION** Please help us to identify you by name and location. If you are currently a student, please give your school address and phone, and indicate the times when we can reach you at that address in the spaces for "phone from \_\_\_ to \_\_\_."

**2. COURSE OF STUDY** You should select the course of study that best aligns with your ministry goals and your purposes in coming to BMA Seminary.

The entire Master of Arts (Religion) and most of the Associate of Divinity degrees are available through Distance Learning. The entire Master of Arts in Church Ministries can be earned through Distance Learning and Master's In Motion courses. Many courses for the Master of Divinity and Bachelor of Arts in Religion degrees are available through Distance Learning and Master's In Motion courses. A Certificate of Christian Leadership may be earned completely by Distance Learning.

**3. ACADEMIC BACKGROUND** Your application must include transcripts of your work at every college and university. This includes, but is not limited to, schools from which you transferred work to earn a degree at another school.

You should request that transcript(s) be sent to the Admissions Office. You may use the **Request for Academic Transcript** form in this application packet for this purpose. If you have attended more than one school, photocopy the form and send one to each school.

If you do not remember the address of your college, you should try to search for the school online, or call our Admissions Office and we will try to find it. Your signature is mandatory. A school cannot send your transcript without your signature on the request. Be aware that most schools charge a fee for providing a transcript; plan to send that amount with your request.

**4. RESEARCH AND WRITING PROFICIENCY** Please include a sample of prior academic work (such as a previous research paper) to demonstrate your proficiency in writing and research. Students with deficiencies in English and grammar will be required to take a developmental English course at a local college. Students with deficiencies in research and writing will be required to take RE 314 as a non-credit developmental course. Upon request of not less than two professors, the dean may require any student to enroll in the RE 314 course.

**5. REFERENCES** You must list three people who know you well and have agreed to serve as references for you. One of your references should be your pastor or a person in a position of spiritual oversight over you. If you are in school or have recently graduated, the second reference should be one of your professors. If you are out of school, the second reference should be your employer or a business associate. We ask that your references not be related to you, such as a parent or parent-in-law, brother-in-law, etc.

Your self-managed application requires you to distribute and collect the attached reference forms. You should first complete the top of each form where you print your name and print your address. With the reference form, give your reference a self-addressed, stamped, security-style business envelope and ask him or her to complete the form, seal it in the envelope, sign across the envelope flap, and send it back to you. When you receive the returned reference form, do not open it but submit it with your other application materials.

**6. CHURCH RELATIONSHIP** Preparation for Christian ministry is nurtured in the local church before seminary study. Ask your church to write a letter: (1) confirming membership or regular participation in good standing, (2) endorsing your potential for effective ministry, and (3) confirming the length of time and description of your involvement in ministries of the church. This letter is in addition to the pastoral reference requested above, although both could be completed by your pastor.

Although some applicants may not be planning on vocational ministry, ministry involvement and potential for ministry in general are still criteria considered in admission evaluation.

As with the references (see above), the church should send the statement to you with the church official's signature across the flap, and you should submit it unopened with your application.

**7. PERSONAL STATUS** Please specify your marital status, your sex, your spouse's name, and whether or not you or your spouse has been divorced. If you are engaged, substitute "fiancé" or "fiancée" for "spouse" throughout this section.

If either you or your spouse has been divorced, please submit a statement discussing each occurrence. The fact that you have been divorced does not mean you will be denied admittance. However, the Admissions Committee must understand the situation(s) in order to evaluate your potential for success in seminary study and in future ministry. For each divorce, please discuss when and why it occurred, counseling which may have occurred before the divorce, who filed for the divorce, attempts at reconciliation, the resolution including the status of children from the marriage, your view of biblical teaching on divorce and remarriage, and how you feel the divorce may affect your future ministry.

If you are separated but not divorced, please contact the Director of Admissions, as each situation is considered on a case-by-case basis.

**8. CITIZENSHIP** Please specify your citizenship status. International students who plan to attend BMA Seminary on a student visa (F-1 or J-1) will be asked, after being provisionally accepted, to document their source(s) of financial support for their entire period of study.

**9. ENGLISH PROFICIENCY** The demonstration of English proficiency is required of all applicants for whom English is not the native or birth language, even applicants who are United States citizens, have attended American or English-speaking colleges and universities, and are long-time residents of English-speaking countries.

Applicants whose native language is not English must demonstrate a minimum composite score of 80 (iBT) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) <http://www.toefl.org>. If you need to submit English proficiency scores and have not already made plans to take the required tests, you should make these plans before applying. TOEFL is a registered trademark of Educational Testing Services (ETS) P. O. Box 899, Princeton, NJ 08540, U.S.A. or <http://www.ets.org>. This publication is not endorsed or approved by ETS.

## **10. BIOGRAPHICAL FACTS ABOUT THE APPLICANT**

In a 500 to 1,000 word statement, relate the details of the following phases of your Christian life:

- a. Particulars about your conversion to Christ. Please state what a person must do to receive eternal life and when you took that step.
- b. Your call to the gospel ministry or to Christian service: the area of ministry in which you are planning to serve.
- c. The extent to which you have been involved and the success you have enjoyed in preaching the Gospel and personally leading others to Christ.
- d. Your spiritual and vocational goals in life.
- e. Your motives for doing undergraduate or graduate work.
- f. Your plans for completing your intended program of studies.

Please sign your statement.

Please list the Christian service/ministry activities in which you have been involved (ministry involvement, church/organization, dates).

## **Employment and leadership experience**

Provide short answers that will enable the Admissions Committee to evaluate your experience and leadership in Christian ministry and in your employment. Please include dates of employment where applicable.

## **Health, financial, and personal information**

Regarding your finances, the Admissions Committee is concerned that you have realistically “counted the cost” of attending BMA Seminary. Our Financial Aid office has information about student loan programs, need-based scholarship grants, and easy-payment plans. You may apply for financial aid once you have applied for admission. The financial aid application is available upon request. All applicants for aid are required to submit financial aid transcripts (which are different from grade transcripts) from every school attended. Contact your college’s financial aid office to ask that a financial aid transcript be sent to BMA Seminary.

**11. SPOUSE’S OR FIANCÉ’S/FIANCÉE’S INFORMATION STATEMENT** Please ask your present or future spouse to prepare a statement of his or her saving faith in Christ, when he or she took that step, and his or her support for your plans to enter BMA Seminary. Your spouse should sign the statement. If you are a Non-degree applicant, this statement is not required.

**12. DOCTRINAL STATEMENT** Applicants are required to read the doctrinal statement in its entirety. It may be found in the seminary catalog or on the seminary website. If you have questions about these doctrines which are not clarified by our Doctrinal Statement, please contact the Admissions Office. While the BMA Seminary does not discriminate against qualified students with differing doctrinal views and also allows discussion of different doctrinal views, students are asked to agree not to promote doctrines contrary to the Doctrinal Statement of the BMA Seminary.

**13. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK** Please specify if you are/have been under investigation or have been arrested for a crime or sexual offense. Also please specify if you have ever been convicted of a crime or sexual offense. If you answered yes to either question, please attach a signed statement discussing each occurrence. For each occurrence of an investigation/arrest/crime, please discuss when and why it occurred, the sentence imposed for each occurrence (including its duration), the resolution of the occurrence, and how you feel the occurrence may affect your future ministry. The fact that you were ever under investigation, arrested, or convicted of a crime or sexual offense does not mean you will be denied admittance. However, the admissions committee must understand the situation(s) in order to evaluate your potential for success in seminary and in future ministry. Applicants are required to give permission to the BMA Seminary to obtain a criminal background check.

**14. INCOMING STUDENT INFORMATION** This information will not be considered when the Admissions Committee evaluates your application. We need this information for statistical reporting purposes and to get to know you better and “link” you into the seminary family after acceptance.

# BMA SEMINARY

BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
P. O. BOX 670, JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS 75766 (903) 586-2501

## APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

### For Admissions Office Use Only

\$35 Fee \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Received \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Entering \_\_\_\_\_  
 Classification \_\_\_\_\_  
 College \_\_\_\_\_  
 Degree \_\_\_\_\_  
 Remarks \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### 1. PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION

\_\_\_\_\_ Last or family name, first name, middle name

\_\_\_\_\_ Name you go by

\_\_\_\_\_ Maiden name

\_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number

\_\_\_\_\_ Present mailing address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Permanent mailing address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone, from: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth

Work Phone (if we may contact you there)

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Where do you consider your hometown to be? \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile phone

### 2. COURSE OF STUDY *Check program:*

- M. Div. Master of Divinity
- M. A. C. M. Master of Arts in Church Ministries
- M. A. R. Master of Arts in Religion
- Non-Degree Seeking / Special / Other
- B. A. R. Bachelor of Arts in Religion
- A. Div. Associate of Divinity
- Certificate

When do you plan to begin your studies? (Check one. Master's programs application deadline is two months before classes begin.)

- Fall Semester 20\_\_\_\_ (begins at the first week of September; application deadline is July 1)
- January Inter-Semester 20\_\_\_\_ (two Master's In Motion courses offered in January; application deadline is November 1)
- Spring Semester 20\_\_\_\_ (begins around the fourth week of January; application deadline is November 1)
- Summer Semester 20\_\_\_\_ (sessions begin June through August; application deadline is April 1)

How are you planning to complete your courses? (Check all that apply)

- Attend regular classes at BMA Seminary in Jacksonville, TX
- Attend regular classes at Arkansas Extension Site in Conway, AR
- Attend Master's In Motion courses mainly
- Distance Learning / Online

What type of credit do you plan to receive?

- Credit – toward a degree
- Non Credit – for personal enrichment

Have you applied to BMA Seminary before?  Yes  No

If an alumnus or former student at BMA Seminary, when were you enrolled? \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

For each school attended beyond high school, give:

Name of institution	Attended from/to	Degree or diploma	Year degree was/will be received	Check if less than 12 hours completed
_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please request that an official transcript be sent to the Admissions Office. Use the **Request for Academic Transcript** form for this purpose.

To the best of your understanding:

- a. Have you completed or are about to complete a bachelor's degree (4-year B.A. or B.S. or equivalent)?  Yes  No
- b. Is the school that awarded your degree accredited by:
  - A generally recognized regional or professional accreditation agency (SACS, North Central, etc.)?
  - An institution not regionally accredited but recognized by regionally accredited colleges and universities in the state where it is located?
  - Accredited by organizations recognized by the Council for Higher Education Association (CHEA)?
  - Don't know

Is your cumulative grade point average above 2.5 on a 4.0 scale?  Yes  No

Have you ever been expelled or suspended by any school?  Yes  No

Are you under any kind of disciplinary action or pending action by any school?  Yes  No

If yes to either question, when? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. RESEARCH AND WRITING PROFICIENCY All students must demonstrate proficiency in writing and research.

Please list here the title(s) of your research and writing sample(s) you are enclosing:

\_\_\_\_\_

### 5. REFERENCES

Please complete the top portion of each reference form, then ask your reference to complete it and return it to you in a sealed envelope with his or her signature across the flap. The first reference should be from your pastor or a person in a position of spiritual oversight over you. If you are a college student, the second reference should be from one of your professors. If you are out of college, the second reference should be from an employer or a business associate. Note: Reference forms should not be completed by someone who is related to you by birth or marriage. **Note:** Please indicate by your signature that you understand that these recommendations will not be a part of your educational record, and that you waive your right to view them.

*Signature:* \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PASTORAL REFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (include zip code) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF EDUCATIONAL OR PROFESSIONAL REFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (include zip code) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF REFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (include zip code) \_\_\_\_\_

**6. CHURCH RELATIONSHIP**

Please request a letter from the official governing body of your church stating (1) that you are a member or participant in good standing, (2) that you are endorsed by them as having promise for effective ministry, and (3) confirming the length of time and description of your involvement. You may use the **Validation of Church Relationship** form for making this request. The letter should be sent back to you in a sealed envelope with the church official’s signature across the sealed flap.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of local church where you are a member or in current fellowship (give name and location):

\_\_\_\_\_  
With what ecclesiastical body is this church affiliated?

\_\_\_\_\_  
If you have attended this church less than one year, where were you attending before and for how long?

Are you a licensed minister?  Yes  No      Are you an ordained minister?  Yes  No

**7. PERSONAL STATUS**

Sex:  Male  Female

Marital status:  Single  Married  Engaged  Widowed  Separated

(If engaged, please substitute “fiancé” or “fiancée” for “spouse” below.)

Have you ever been divorced or are you now separated?  Yes  No      If yes, attach statement. See instructions for details.

Spouse’s name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse’s date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of marriage: \_\_\_\_\_

Has your spouse ever been divorced?  Yes  No      If yes, attach statement. See instructions for details.

Names of Children and dates of birth (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**8. CITIZENSHIP**

Are you a/an (check one):

Citizen of U.S.A. by birth

Naturalized citizen of the U.S.A. When? \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent resident or resident alien (holder of green card)

    o What is your country of citizenship? \_\_\_\_\_

International student coming on a visa. What type of visa? \_\_\_\_\_

**9. ENGLISH PROFICIENCY**

Is English your native or birth language?  Yes  No      If English is not your native or birth language, give the date when TOEFL was or will be taken: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_

(Required)

## 10. BIOGRAPHICAL FACTS ABOUT THE APPLICANT

### Statement

In a single-spaced typed 500 to 1,000 word statement, relate the details of the following phases of your Christian life:

- a. Particulars about your conversion to Christ. Please state what a person must do to receive eternal life and when you took that step.
- b. Your call to the gospel ministry or to Christian service: the area of ministry in which you are planning to serve.
- c. The extent to which you have been involved and the success you have enjoyed in preaching the Gospel and personally leading others to Christ.
- d. Your spiritual and vocational goals in life.
- e. Your motives for doing undergraduate or graduate work.
- f. Your plans for completing your intended program of studies.

Please list your Christian service/ministry activities in which you have been involved, include dates (ministry involvement, church/organization).

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### Employment and leadership experience

List types and dates of employment in which you have engaged. If currently employed full-time, state position.

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In what campus organizations, extracurricular activities, service organizations, fraternal societies, etc., have you taken an active part?

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What opportunities have you taken to demonstrate leadership, and what evidence of success in leadership have you seen?

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Do you know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior?  Yes  No When were you saved? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you planning to be a:  Pastor  Evangelist  Teacher  Chaplain  Missionary  Christian Educator

Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_



**Health, financial, and personal information**

Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Condition of eyesight \_\_\_\_\_ Condition of hearing \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever had a prolonged illness?  Yes  No If yes, give details \_\_\_\_\_

Has a nervous (or other physical condition) ever interfered with your studies?  Yes  No If yes, give details \_\_\_\_\_

How is your health at present?

Have you ever been under mental or emotional health care?  Yes  No

If yes, what has been the resolution of the care and what ongoing care is in process? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any physical disabilities that might interfere with your effectiveness as a student or as a minister?  Yes  No

If yes, give details \_\_\_\_\_

Are you on a sound financial basis at this time?  Yes  No

If no, please explain:

Amount of your indebtedness to your previous school(s): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of student loan balance outstanding: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of all other indebtedness (excluding home mortgage): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of loan repayments currently past due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please explain any delinquencies of debt repayments.

What is your plan for meeting the expenses of seminary study? Include expected annual income.

Have you been convicted of a crime?  Yes  No

If yes, please discuss the circumstances and the resolution of any conviction.

Are there any other facts or information that you would like the Admissions Committee to know for evaluation of your application?

### 11. SPOUSE'S OR FIANCÉ'S / FIANCÉE'S INFORMATION STATEMENT

Please attach a signed statement written by your spouse or fiancé/fiancée describing his or her saving faith in Christ, when he or she took that step, and whether he or she is in agreement with your plans to enter seminary.

### 12. DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

Have you read the BMAA Doctrinal Statement of the Seminary in its entirety in the catalog or on the website?

Yes  No

In the interest of campus unity, do you agree not to promote views contrary to the Doctrinal Statement of the Seminary?

Yes  No

### 13. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK

Are you now, or have you ever been under investigation, or arrested for a criminal or sexual offense?  Yes  No

Have you ever been convicted of a crime?  Yes  No

If you answered yes to either question, please attach a signed statement discussing each occurrence. For each occurrence of an investigation/arrest/crime, please discuss when and why it occurred, the sentence imposed for each occurrence (including its duration), the resolution of the occurrence, and how you feel the occurrence may affect your future ministry.

Applicant hereby authorizes Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary to obtain a criminal background check and agrees to furnish additional information about prior arrests, investigations, and convictions upon request.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

I promise, in submission to the Holy Spirit's guidance, that if admitted to BMA Seminary I will at all times conduct myself as a Christian, faithfully and diligently apply myself to the studies as required by the Seminary curriculum, promptly meet all financial and other obligations, carefully observe the rules and regulations as set forth by the Seminary and its faculty, and submit to the authority of the faculty and administration. I also affirm that the facts in this application and accompanying biographical statement(s) or other attached statements are true to the best of my knowledge. Should any of the facts contained in this application, accompanying biographical statement(s) or other attached statements (i.e. address, marital status, criminal accusations / convictions, citizenship or immigration status, employment) change at any time I am a student at the BMA Seminary, I will inform the BMA Seminary in writing as soon as possible. I further understand that false information given on the application is grounds for dismissal or denial of admission.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

REV April 4, 2008

### APPLICANT'S CHECKLIST

- 1. All questions answered?
- 2. \$35 nonrefundable application fee enclosed?
- 3. Transcript(s) requested?
- 4. Prior academic work, entrance testing and/or previous research papers enclosed?
- 5. Three reference forms enclosed in sealed envelopes?
- 6. Church letter enclosed in sealed envelope?
- 7. Applicant's and/or spouse's signed statements on divorce or separation (if applicable) enclosed?
- 8. Documentation of financial support for entire length of study enclosed (international student)/
- 9. Arrangements begun to take TOEFL? (If English is not native or birth language)
- 10. 500 to 1,000 word biographical statement enclosed?
- 11. Statement written by your spouse or fiancé/fiancée (if applicable) enclosed?
- 12. Statement about your criminal investigation/arrest/conviction (if applicable) enclosed?
- 12. Housing application enclosed (if applicable)?



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BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
P. O. BOX 670 JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS 75766 (903) 586-2501

## REQUEST FOR ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPT

*Applicant: Please photocopy this form, complete it (including signature), and send it to each college, university, seminary, or learning institution you have attended since high school. You must include the required fee to have the transcript sent. You are advised to call the registrar's office at the college or university to inquire about this fee. Attach a check for this amount to this request form.*

TO:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Registrar

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Institution

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address of Institution

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please send a copy of the academic transcript for the purpose of application for admission to:

**BMA Seminary  
Admissions Office  
P. O. Box 670  
Jacksonville, Texas 75766**

The Seminary asks you, as Registrar, to **please sign across the sealed envelope flap.**

*I hereby authorize the release of my transcript and any other pertinent personal information:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name by which I attended your school

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Years of attendance

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's name (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Degree(s) earned

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Social Security number

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth

(      ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime phone

Rev July 8, 2013

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P. O. BOX 670 JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS 75766 (903) 586-2501

## VALIDATION OF CHURCH RELATIONSHIP

*This section is to be filled out by applicant.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

*This section is to be filled out by church.*

Dear Pastor or Church Officer:

The person stated above is applying for admission to BMA Seminary. We ask that you validate the following areas regarding the applicant:

- (1) The applicant's membership or regular participation in good standing,
- (2) The church's endorsement of the applicant's potential for effective ministry, and
- (3) The length of time and description of the applicant's involvement in ministries of the church.

If the applicant is not a member but is a regular attender, please qualify your statement accordingly.

**The Admissions Committee prefers you use your church letterhead to write this statement.** If this is not feasible, you may make your statement on this form. Be sure the statement is signed and includes the title or position of the signer.

To increase the applicant's control over the timetable of the application, we are using a self-managed application. Please (1) **seal** the church endorsement in an envelope, (2) **sign** across the flap, and (3) **return to the applicant** the sealed envelope to be included with his or her application.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*If not using church letterhead, please use the space below (and on the back if necessary) to write your statement.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of church

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Position

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

Rev July 8, 2013

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P. O. BOX 670 JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS 75766 (903) 586-2501

## REFERENCE FORM

*This section is to be filled out by applicant.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

*This section is to be filled out by reference.*

The individual named above has given your name as a reference in applying for entrance to our seminary. We rely on people like you to help us accurately appraise our incoming students. This includes identifying positive or negative situations from the past or present conditions which affect the applicant's ministry effectiveness or suitability for admission into the Seminary community.

Instructions are provided in the box at the end of this form for your submitting this reference form to us, securely, through the applicant. We appreciate your honest estimate of this applicant's personality and character traits, and will treat your reply as confidential. It is the policy of BMA Seminary that reference forms are NOT made available to the applicant.

How long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

You have been the applicant's:  Teacher  Pastor  Friend  Employer  Adviser  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please rate the candidate by placing a check mark by one or more items under each of the headings below. If you wish, describe briefly and concretely specific instances which support or determine your judgment. Do not check items of which you feel uncertain or in which you have had no opportunity to observe.

**(a) Physical condition**

- Frequently incapacitated
- Somewhat below par
- Fairly healthy
- Good health

**(b) Sociability or friendliness**

- Avoided by others
- Tolerated by others
- Liked by others
- Well-liked by others
- Sought by others

**(c) Intelligence**

- Learns and thinks slowly
- Average mental ability
- Alert; has a good mind
- Brilliant; exceptional capacity

**(d) Achievement (ability to formulate, execute, and carry plans to conclusion)**

- Does only what is assigned
- Starts but does not finish
- Meets average expectations
- Resourceful and effective
- Superior creative ability

**(e) Leadership (ability to inspire others and maintain their confidence)**

- Makes no effort to lead
- Tries but lacks ability
- Has some leadership promise
- Good leadership ability
- Unusual ability to lead

**(f) Teamwork (ability to work with others)**

- Frequently causes friction
- Usually cooperative
- Prefers to work alone
- Able to work with those of different personality or temperament
- Most effective in teamwork

**(g) Responsiveness (to the feelings and needs of others)**

- Slow to sense how others feel
- Reasonably responsive
- Understanding and thoughtful
- Responds with unusual insight and consideration

**(h) Emotional Adjustment**

- Yields to urges or cravings
- Tense, fearful, worried
- Easily angered, easily frustrated
- Downhearted, blue, depressed
- Maintains balance, self-controlled

**(i) Teachability**

- Rigid, argumentative
- Highly opinionated
- Open-minded
- Willing to receive instruction
- Eager to receive instruction

**(j) Perseverance (in completing task)**

- Gives up easily or easily discouraged
- Needs encouragement to persevere
- Persists in most circumstances
- Persists even under adversity

**(k) Self-image**

- Insecure
- Inferiority complex
- Self-confident
- May be prone to boast
- Modest, true estimate of self

**(l) Wisdom in use of money**

- Talks frequently of debt or financial worries
- Expects others to meet needs
- Careless
- Extravagant
- Careful, has a budget

**NEXT PAGE**

Please comment with any insights/concerns you have regarding this applicant's qualifications in the areas above.

\_\_\_\_\_

How is this person gifted for vocational Christian service?

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any reason to doubt the applicant's personal integrity? If so, please specify.

\_\_\_\_\_

If the applicant is married, how would you evaluate his/her marriage relationship?  
 Don't know    Superficial    Detached, aloof    Reserved    Warm, growing    Good communication

Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_

Listed below are some of the tendencies which, if present, may reduce the effectiveness of the student. Place a check mark by any characteristics or traits which you have noted in the applicant:

- |   |                                      |   |   |  |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Impatient          | <input type="checkbox"/> Sullen      | <input type="checkbox"/> Easily embarrassed | <input type="checkbox"/> Rigid, not adaptable                         | friendships, i.e., "crushes"<br><input type="checkbox"/> Prejudiced toward groups, races, or nationalities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Critical of others | <input type="checkbox"/> Irritable   | <input type="checkbox"/> Quick-tempered     | <input type="checkbox"/> Lacking in humor or inability to take a joke |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Argumentative      | <input type="checkbox"/> "Cocky"     | <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently worried | <input type="checkbox"/> Given to exclusive and absorbing             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domineering        | <input type="checkbox"/> Aloof       | <input type="checkbox"/> Depressed          |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lacking tact       | <input type="checkbox"/> Discouraged | <input type="checkbox"/> Anxious            |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intolerant         | <input type="checkbox"/> Rude        | <input type="checkbox"/> Impersonal         |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Easily offended    | <input type="checkbox"/> Tense       | <input type="checkbox"/> Unteachable        |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self-centered      | <input type="checkbox"/> Nervous     |   |   |  |

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What do you believe to be the applicant's motivation in applying to BMA Seminary?

\_\_\_\_\_

How would you rate the applicant's potential success in Christian ministry?

- Exceptionally good    Very good    Good    Fair    Poor

Do you have any reservations in recommending this person?

\_\_\_\_\_

If there are additional facts which we should know, please write them on a separate sheet. You may include the names and addresses of additional references which you think would be of help in evaluating this application.

Thank you.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Position

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

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Rev July 8, 2013

# BMA SEMINARY

BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
P. O. BOX 670 JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS 75766 (903) 586-2501

## REFERENCE FORM

*This section is to be filled out by applicant.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

*This section is to be filled out by reference.*

The individual named above has given your name as a reference in applying for entrance to our seminary. We rely on people like you to help us accurately appraise our incoming students. This includes identifying positive or negative situations from the past or present conditions which affect the applicant's ministry effectiveness or suitability for admission into the Seminary community.

Instructions are provided in the box at the end of this form for your submitting this reference form to us, securely, through the applicant. We appreciate your honest estimate of this applicant's personality and character traits, and will treat your reply as confidential. It is the policy of BMA Seminary that reference forms are NOT made available to the applicant.

How long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

You have been the applicant's:  Teacher  Pastor  Friend  Employer  Adviser  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please rate the candidate by placing a check mark by one or more items under each of the headings below. If you wish, describe briefly and concretely specific instances which support or determine your judgment. Do not check items of which you feel uncertain or in which you have had no opportunity to observe.

**(a) Physical condition**

- Frequently incapacitated
- Somewhat below par
- Fairly healthy
- Good health

**(b) Sociability or friendliness**

- Avoided by others
- Tolerated by others
- Liked by others
- Well-liked by others
- Sought by others

**(c) Intelligence**

- Learns and thinks slowly
- Average mental ability
- Alert; has a good mind
- Brilliant; exceptional capacity

**(d) Achievement (ability to formulate, execute, and carry plans to conclusion)**

- Does only what is assigned
- Starts but does not finish
- Meets average expectations
- Resourceful and effective
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**(e) Leadership (ability to inspire others and maintain their confidence)**

- Makes no effort to lead
- Tries but lacks ability
- Has some leadership promise
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**(f) Teamwork (ability to work with others)**

- Frequently causes friction
- Usually cooperative
- Prefers to work alone
- Able to work with those of different personality or temperament
- Most effective in teamwork

**(g) Responsiveness (to the feelings and needs of others)**

- Slow to sense how others feel
- Reasonably responsive
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**(h) Emotional Adjustment**

- Yields to urges or cravings
- Tense, fearful, worried
- Easily angered, easily frustrated
- Downhearted, blue, depressed
- Maintains balance, self-controlled

**(i) Teachability**

- Rigid, argumentative
- Highly opinionated
- Open-minded
- Willing to receive instruction
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**(j) Perseverance (in completing task)**

- Gives up easily or easily discouraged
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- Persists even under adversity

**(k) Self-image**

- Insecure
- Inferiority complex
- Self-confident
- May be prone to boast
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**(l) Wisdom in use of money**

- Talks frequently of debt or financial worries
- Expects others to meet needs
- Careless
- Extravagant
- Careful, has a budget

**NEXT PAGE**



Please comment with any insights/concerns you have regarding this applicant's qualifications in the areas above.

\_\_\_\_\_

How is this person gifted for vocational Christian service?

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any reason to doubt the applicant's personal integrity? If so, please specify.

\_\_\_\_\_

If the applicant is married, how would you evaluate his/her marriage relationship?

- Don't know
- Superficial
- Detached, aloof
- Reserved
- Warm, growing
- Good communication

Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_

Listed below are some of the tendencies which, if present, may reduce the effectiveness of the student. Place a check mark by any characteristics or traits which you have noted in the applicant:

- |   |                                      |   |   |  |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Domineering        | <input type="checkbox"/> Aloof       | <input type="checkbox"/> Depressed          |   |  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Intolerant         | <input type="checkbox"/> Rude        | <input type="checkbox"/> Impersonal         |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Easily offended    | <input type="checkbox"/> Tense       | <input type="checkbox"/> Unteachable        |   |  |
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Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What do you believe to be the applicant's motivation in applying to BMA Seminary?

\_\_\_\_\_

How would you rate the applicant's potential success in Christian ministry?

- Exceptionally good
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Do you have any reservations in recommending this person?

\_\_\_\_\_

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Argumentative      | <input type="checkbox"/> "Cocky"     | <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently worried | <input type="checkbox"/> Given to exclusive and absorbing             |  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Intolerant         | <input type="checkbox"/> Rude        | <input type="checkbox"/> Impersonal         |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Easily offended    | <input type="checkbox"/> Tense       | <input type="checkbox"/> Unteachable        |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self-centered      | <input type="checkbox"/> Nervous     |   |   |  |

Comments:

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What do you believe to be the applicant's motivation in applying to BMA Seminary?

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How would you rate the applicant's potential success in Christian ministry?

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Do you have any reservations in recommending this person?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Position

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

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Address

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\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip