

# Crosslink Christian Network, Australia

ABN: 66 078 054 092

## APPLICATION TO AFFILIATE A CHURCH OR ORGANISATION

Please note the following:

1. This application is for churches and organizations. For Minister's endorsement, please complete an *Application for Endorsement as a Minister*. Please note that Minister's endorsement is **ONLY** through the recommendation of an affiliated Crosslink church or organisation. If you are part of an organisation that is looking towards affiliation with Crosslink, please complete *this* application first.
2. **Only** send the following 3-page form as your application; the last 4 pages of this document are notes for your ONGOING reference, and do not need to be returned to Crosslink.
3. Please complete all sections as requested. If you have any queries at all, please contact the office mobile 0455 061 492 OR email [connect@crosslinknetwork.com.au](mailto:connect@crosslinknetwork.com.au)
4. Please **DO NOT** send payment with your application form. If the application is approved, a Tax Invoice for annual fees (pro-rata) will then be issued to you.
5. Your application will be processed as quickly and efficiently as circumstances allow.

Thank you and God Bless.

**Please return completed form to:**

Crosslink Christian Network  
PO Box 4133  
TOWRADGI NSW 2518

OR

Email: [connect@crosslinknetwork.com.au](mailto:connect@crosslinknetwork.com.au)

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To help you complete this form correctly, please refer to the Supporting Notes (pages 5-8)

### Part 1 – CHURCH OR MINISTRY:

Legal Name of Church/Ministry: \_\_\_\_\_ ABN: \_\_\_\_\_

*Church/Ministry (commonly 'known' as)*

*(optional):* \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Phone Contact No: \_\_\_\_\_

Church/Ministry Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

### Part 2 – SENIOR MINISTER/LEADER

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Email for Accounts: \_\_\_\_\_

### Part 3 – APOSTOLIC COVERING/MENTORING

Names of at least TWO mentors who have agreed to provide Apostolic covering/Mentoring for your church/ministry:

1. Provider’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Declaration of provider:** *I have read and understood the Crosslink documents “Apostolic Relationships” and “Apostolic Diversity” (see website), and on that basis I am happy to provide apostolic covering/mentoring for*

(INSERT CHURCH/MINISTRY NAME) \_\_\_\_\_

Provider’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Provider’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Declaration of provider:** *I have read and understood the Crosslink documents “Apostolic Relationships” and “Apostolic Diversity” (see website), and on that basis I am happy to provide apostolic covering/mentoring for*

(INSERT CHURCH/MINISTRY NAME) \_\_\_\_\_

Provider’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Part 4 – SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

**Please provide the following documents along with, and extra to your completed application form:**

1. A cover letter outlining a sense of God’s call re. your organisation becoming affiliated with Crosslink
2. Brief history of your church/organization (1-2 paragraphs)
3. A copy of your Vision/Core Values Statement
4. A copy of your church’s Constitution
5. A copy of your church’s **Association Liability Insurance Policy** (should include Directors and Officers Liability Insurance – i.e. NOT your Public Liability Insurance) – *if you do not currently have the above insurance, please let us know HERE or contact us.*
6. A copy of your church’s Child Protection policy
7. A web link to your Australian Charities & Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) listing. (ask us if unsure)

**Part 5 – YOUR DECLARATION:**

*We, the leaders of the above-named Church/Ministry confirm that we share the vision & values of the Crosslink Christian Network Australia. The decision to seek Affiliated Membership was confirmed at a meeting of our Leaders. We have included all documents as requested.”*

SENIOR MINISTER/LEADER \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 6 – RECOMMENDATION FROM CROSSLINK BOARD**

As part of the application process, you will be contacted by one of the Crosslink Board Members who will need to commend your application.

**Part 7 – FEES: (FEES PAYABLE ONLY UPON NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF APPLICATION)**

**Church Affiliation Fee:** tiered based on entity size from \$400 to \$650 (pro rata) per annum (inc. GST) – payable upon notice from the Crosslink Office accepting your application, and payment of the fees invoice issued at that time, completes the membership acceptance and registration process.

**Please return completed form to:**

Crosslink Christian Network  
PO Box 4133  
TOWRADGI NSW 2518

OR

Email: [connect@crosslinknetwork.com.au](mailto:connect@crosslinknetwork.com.au)

# AFFILIATED CHURCH APPLICATION FORM

## Supporting Notes

### PART 1: CHURCH OR MINISTRY ORGANISATION

The Crosslink Network has been established to support groups of Christian people who are committed to the pursuit of Biblically mandated goals. In seeking to be shaped by the future, we recognize that this is a journey rather than a destination. As such we seek to represent a current position on that road and our hope is to be constantly moving toward declared kingdom of God goals.

Our idea of church could be described as follows:

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*“the reigning presence of Jesus Christ within a group of people strategically gathered to fulfil a kingdom of God purpose.”*

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We have discovered that God is leading local congregations and groups to express a much broader range of ministry models than in previous generations. We place a high value on the relationships between church members and their leaders. We also place high value on external supportive relationships, e.g., apostolic, and prophetic connections.

What we value is the godly love amongst and out from a group of people who share the same vision and calling. Our task is to help support structures that produce kingdom fruitfulness. This might happen through a congregation that meets for worship, or it may be an organization that works in other ways to see the same result. We regard each of these as a “church.”

This is the basic unit we want to support. For that reason, we do not offer Endorsed Minister credentials other than to churches that are Affiliated with the Crosslink Network. In our view it is up to the local congregation to recognize those who should be Endorsed. It is then the privilege of the Network to support their recommendation.

*For this form, please provide your church or ministry’s legal name which will likely match your ABN and the name you are commonly know as in your community or ‘trading as’ (if different to your legal name).*

## **PART 2: SENIOR MINISTER/LEADER**

We acknowledge that God is moving his church toward leadership models that reflect more of what Paul talked about in his letter to the Ephesians 4 and 5. In addition to the historically attested roles of pastors and teachers we are keen to see apostolic, prophetic, and evangelistic leaders functioning within the leadership groups of churches.

We don't place a lot of value in the formal names associated with these leaders but assert the importance of Biblical function and anointing. Again, we are not specific about status or hierarchy as some other denominations and movements but do value leadership as a calling and gift as essential to church health and fruitfulness. We are assuming that in most churches there will be an overall leader. Whoever that person is and however they are recognized is up to the church. They will usually be Endorsed (only endorsed ministers can be credentialed), but endorsement is not a requirement. We just need to know who to connect with as the overall leader and representative for the Affiliated Church.

## **PART 3 – APOSTOLIC CONNECTION / MENTORING**

Since we are a Network rather than an institutional structure, we place high value on intentional organic relationships between a church, its leaders and people who provide apostolic support. There is a document accompanying this form that outlines this idea in more detail. For a person to qualify as an apostolic connection they need to provide equipping that enables the church to increase in godliness and effectiveness against their ministry goals.

Apostolic people do not need to be members of the Crosslink Christian Network themselves but need to affirm the Affiliation of the Church to the Network. We suggest that you consider the value of these relationships and appoint or invite people to provide this support with prayerful wisdom. You will need to ask those providing your apostolic connection/mentoring to read the provided documents "Apostolic Relationships" & "Apostolic Diversity" and sign the form on page 3 of this application form. For further clarification please contact our National Office.

## **PART 4 – SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

- **BRIEF HISTORY** - We would like to know your story and why you feel called to join Crosslink. Once again, it is not for any other reason than gaining an understanding of where God has brought you. Since our goal is to support what God wants to do through you, this will help us better serve you.
- **VISION AND VALUES** - While Crosslink Christian Network has formed around kingdom of God values and vision, we require all current and potential Affiliated Members to hear from God and gather around Biblical values and objectives for their own group. We are convinced of the importance for a group to exist for reasons outside of and beyond themselves. They need to shape decisions and form the basis for unity within the group. The provision of these statements will enable us to better understand your calling and be in a better position to support what God will do through you.

- **CONSTITUTION** - Every Crosslink Church needs to be independently legally constituted. If you do not already have this in place, the two most common forms of legal structure are “Associations (unincorporated or incorporated)” and “Companies Limited by Guarantee.” The first of those is by far the most suitable for most churches. We do have samples of these at our National Office if you wish to see them. We also have a lot of collective wisdom from members of the Network. You can download copies of draft rules (constitutions) from the websites of State Government bodies. Our suggestion is that you opt for the simplest form of constitution. A constitution is much like what happens when you register a car. It regulates the financial and legal processes of a group of people in a way that can be recognized by banks, government departments, legal representatives, landlords and insurance companies. It just enables you to “drive on the road.”

**This link at ASIC has information about registering a not-for-profit** *(current as at Jan 2024)*

<https://asic.gov.au/for-business/registering-a-company/steps-to-register-a-company/registering-not-for-profit-or-charitable-organisations/>

**State Links (for registering associations, other links on these pages to examples of constitutions)** *(current as at Jan 2024)*

Australian Capital Territory

<https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/business-and-work/associations-co-ops-and-charities/incorporated-associations>

New South Wales

<https://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/associations-and-co-operatives/associations/starting-an-association>

Victoria

<https://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/clubs-and-fundraising/incorporated-associations/incorporated-association-registration-process>

Queensland

<https://www.qld.gov.au/law/laws-regulated-industries-and-accountability/queensland-laws-and-regulations/associations-charities-and-non-for-profits/incorporated-associations>

South Australia

<https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/family-and-community/community-organisations>

Tasmania

[Applying for Incorporation \(cbos.tas.gov.au\)](http://cbos.tas.gov.au) *(this site may not work correctly on Chrome – try MS Edge, Safari or Firefox)*

Western Australia

<https://associations.commerce.wa.gov.au/associations/public/publicHomePage.jspx>

Northern Territory

<https://nt.gov.au/industry/licences/incorporated-associations>

- **ASSOCIATION LIABILITY INSURANCE** - Separate from the Public Liability and other insurance products that are required for you to register your association with your state body, every church needs to hold **Association Liability Insurance** a package product which includes Directors and Officers Liability insurance amongst other things (your provider should give you a list of what's included). This insurance protects both leaders and members of your congregation against claims based on the regular exercise of a church's ministry. It covers decisions made by Directors and Office Bearers as well as people who might be involved in anything from counselling to prayer. It does not cover situations where the duty of care has not been exercised or where there is criminal negligence, but everything else. In our over-litigious society, this is a wise and relatively inexpensive cover.

**NB: Crosslink Network has a collective group policy** which is much cheaper than 'most' individual policies. It is not a requirement for a church to insure through Crosslink, but **if you have your own policy we will need to retain a copy that is current.**

If you choose to join the Crosslink Group, at an appropriate time before the end of September renewal, we will communicate with you about the simple steps you'll need to take to ensure your participation. PI & DOL Insurance invoices will be sent to churches in the scheme, separate from fee invoices, and the amount will be based upon a tier system developed by the insurer, usually around \$200 - \$300 per annum.

Insurance policies run from 1<sup>st</sup> October – 30 September.

- **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY** - We have been made painfully aware of harm done in the past, especially to children. As servants of Jesus we hear his words about our special responsibility to the "little ones," (Matt. 18) we should be all the more ready to provide a safe environment for children in every aspect of our ministry. A lot of work has been done in this area and good resources are available. If you need to establish such a policy, you could call our National Office for suggestions and assistance. More important than the policy itself will be the establishment of practices in your church which maintain a high-level commitment to child safety.
- **ACNC LISTING** In order to receive GST exemption and some other tax exemptions, and fringe benefit (pastoral benefits) exemption you must be registered with the ACNC <https://www.acnc.gov.au/>

## **PART 5 – YOUR DECLARATION**

We value shared responsibility. It comes from the New Testament metaphor of the church as a body with members that share commitment and responsibility. As such we want to make sure that the decision of a church comes as an open decision by the leaders and is known by the members of the church. This has everything to do with open consultative leadership and has nothing to do with identity. We don't expect a congregational member to wake up any morning thinking that their church belongs to Crosslink. It is much more important that the leaders have agreed to such a decision and understand why such a decision has value. I am sure this will not be an issue for 99% of churches. It exists to prevent a unilateral decision being made by a single leader without consultation. Sadly, such things can happen.



## **PART 6 – RECOMMENDATION FROM CROSSLINK BOARD**

As mentioned previously, we value relationships. It is vital to every aspect of our work. We don't try to market or advertise in order to increase membership. Most of our growth happens through personal recommendation. As such, the membership process itself depends on a relationship being built. When we get to know you are going to submit an application, we will ask one or other of our Crosslink Board Members to contact you and discuss your application. They will give close attention to hearing your story, gain awareness of your structures and gain a better understanding of what you believe God wants to do through your church. This also enables discussion of questions you may have, or aspects of the Network that might need further clarification. The Board Member will then submit a recommendation to the rest of the Board.

## **PART 7 – AFFILIATION FEES**

Each Crosslink affiliated church will pay an annual fee. This contributes to the employment of a part-time National Chairperson (currently 0.6 FTI) and a part-time Administrator/Executive Pastor (up to 0.7 FTI). It covers the cost of running a national office and a portion of travel costs for the Chairperson. We have always sought to operate on an annual nil-deficit budget and try to regulate fees just to cover costs. The fee structure for Affiliated Churches is on a pro-rata basis according to the size of the church. Invoices for annual fees will be posted in July/August of each new fiscal year. We continue to work with congregations to find the best way of making fee payments suit their circumstances. Fees can be paid annually, quarterly, monthly, or fortnightly but each invoice must be paid in full by 30 June of the current year.