

# Crosslink Christian Network, Australia

ABN: 66 078 054 092

## APPLICATION FOR ENDORSEMENT OF A MINISTER

Please note the following:

1. Minister endorsement is through the recommendation of an affiliated Crosslink church or organization **ONLY**. If you are part of an organization that is looking for affiliation with Crosslink, please complete an Application for Affiliated Church or Organization Membership first.

**NB:** If your church or organization is already affiliated, please put the name of your church or organisation down as the nominating body (Part 1 of this application form).

2. Only send the following 3 pages as your application; the last 2 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 (M: 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, you will be issued a pro-rata Tax Invoice at that stage.
5. Your application will be processed as quickly 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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## APPLICATION FOR ENDORSEMENT OF A MINISTER

To help you complete this form correctly, please refer to the Supporting Notes (pages 5-6)

### Part 1 (of 5) – NOMINATION

Name of Nominating Crosslink Church/Organisation

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Applicant's role or function with the Nominating Crosslink Church/Organisation (Pastor, Leader etc.)

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### Part 2 (of 5) – PERSONAL DETAILS OF APPLICANT

Title (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

Personal Website/Blog: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 3 (of 5) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU** (please circle yes or no)

- 1) Are you currently endorsed as a minister by any other organisation? YES / NO  
**If yes, please add supporting notes for this question.**
  
- 2) Do you currently hold a Marriage Celebrant’s license with another denomination? YES / NO  
**If YES, you must resign by contacting your State BDM before applying to become licenced under Crosslink (see supporting notes).**
  
- 3) Please attach details or list below any formal or informal ministry training or experience you may have, just a summary or a couple paragraphs so we can learn a little bit about you.

**Part 4 (of 5) – MEMBERSHIP FEES** (*Please DO NOT send payment with this form*)

**Endorsed Minister’s Fee:** \$800 (pro rata) per annum (inc. GST) – payable upon notice of acceptance of the application.

You will be sent an invoice for your fees (pro rata) as part of the notification from the Crosslink Office that your application has been approved. **Payment of fees are required to complete the endorsement process.**

## Part 5 (of 5) – APOSTOLIC COVERING/MENTORING

Names and contact details of at least TWO mentors who have agreed to provide Apostolic covering/Mentoring for the applicant (Named Providers must **Sign the declaration below** please).

1. Provider #1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

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

2. Provider #2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## APOSTOLIC / MENTORING DECLARATION

### PROVIDER #1

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

(INSERT APPLICANT’S NAME) \_\_\_\_\_

PROVIDER’S NAME (PRINTED PLEASE) \_\_\_\_\_

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

### PROVIDER #2

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

(INSERT APPLICANT’S NAME) \_\_\_\_\_

PROVIDER’S NAME (PRINTED PLEASE) \_\_\_\_\_

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

# APPLICATION FOR ENDORSEMENT OF A MINISTER

## Supporting Notes

### PART 1 – NOMINATION

Crosslink is a network of Affiliated Churches. As such, the recognition of Endorsed Ministers is the primary responsibility of a local church. It is the task of church leaders, along with the counsel of their apostolic mentors to identify those whom God has called to exercise leadership. The Bible has plenty of wisdom to offer in support of this process and we would assume churches would use prayerful consultation in making such decisions.

The role of the Network, through its leaders, is to “Endorse” what local churches recommend. It has been common for churches joining Crosslink to submit applications for Affiliate Membership and Endorsed Minister recognition at the same time simply because most churches have already appointed those who are to fulfil the role as pastor (or whatever name they may choose). We would process the Affiliated Church application first. If we agree that an applicant church should be welcomed as a member of the Network, it will follow that we approve the Endorsed Minister application(s).

Endorsement as a Minister of the Crosslink Christian Network provides a trans-local recognition of leadership and is accepted by various community institutions: the Australian Taxation Office; the Attorney General’s Department, hospitals and healthcare agencies, prisons, and schools. In some cases, extra documents may be required, but Endorsed Minister status is foundational for most of them.

### PART 3 – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### 1. MINISTRY CREDENTIALS FROM ANOTHER ORGANISATION

We understand that the process of becoming part of the Crosslink Network will sometimes involve separation from a previous denomination or movement. We don’t apply any pressure on anyone to leave a movement and the opportunity to form close relationships without joining Crosslink has happened often. It is the kingdom of God we belong to. Crosslink Network is just a tool needed to do a job. The bottom line is that Crosslink cannot Endorse a leader until they formally resign from a previous denomination / movement.

#### 2. MARRIAGE CELEBRANT LICENCE

Crosslink Christian Network is a registered Denomination as far as the Attorney General’s Department is concerned. As such we are permitted to nominate Endorsed Ministers to be Registered with the AG as Authorised Marriage Celebrants. We act on behalf of the AG and have given assurance that we will comply with the regulations and policies related to the Marriage Act (1961). (continued over)

The AG's criteria for recognising a Religious Celebrant who is the minister of a local congregation requires that they be the recognised leader of a group of at least 25 people meeting consistently for a year. Whilst we have Endorsed Ministers who do not lead congregations as such, we apply the 1 for 25 rule when we process applications for Marriage Celebrant Registration regardless of whether those 25 people never meet in the same building at the same time.

When an application for Endorsed Minister has been approved by the Board, the Minister can apply to our office for a Marriage Celebrant Application Form. For those of you in South Australia, this can only be posted to you and must be returned as an original.

**PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY: It is not possible to be Registered as a Marriage Celebrant with Crosslink Christian Network while you still hold a Celebrant Number from another Registering Denomination or Movement. We CAN help you negotiate with state departments towards keeping your previous license number, so please ask if you need to. We can't guarantee this, but we can certainly try.**

Here is the weblink to download the Guidelines to the Marriage Act 1961

<https://www.ag.gov.au/FamiliesAndMarriage/Marriage/Documents/Guidelines%20on%20the%20Marriage%20Act%201961%20for%20marriage%20celebrants.pdf>

### 3. **MINISTRY TRAINING**

Crosslink does not have a requirement for a particular standard of training in order for someone to qualify for Endorsement. Having said that, we greatly value training – in fact we believe that all of us need to be engaged in ongoing training. Our point is that it is a local church that will establish this requirement. At the same time, we would like to know what training you have had. It just helps us to get to know you better.

## **PART 4 – MEMBERSHIP FEES**

Crosslink Network is about support for Christian leaders more than it is about whole congregations having a strong bond to the Network. Most congregations are grateful for the trans-local connection and for the sense of accountability that comes by belonging to the Network. It is generally the pastors/leaders who feel the greater value of belonging. For this reason the fee structure focuses on leaders. Endorsement is like becoming a member of the Certified Practising Accountants Association of Australia. This organization provides a guarantee of certain standards and the opportunity for recourse to a further authority body if there is some issue. Crosslink works in a similar way. Endorsement qualifies you to receive certain tax benefits given to Christian ministers and it provides an identification that can be readily seen by any community organization (school, hospital etc.). It removes some of the problems associated with people who become dangerous 'lone rangers' in ministry situations.

Invoices for annual fees will be posted in July/August of the new fiscal year. We continue to work with our Affiliated organisations to find the best way of making fee payments suit their circumstances. Fees can be paid annually, quarterly, monthly, or fortnightly. Our goal in setting fees is to meet a very modest budget, not to make it impossible for people to belong. If you need to seek a fee concession

or special arrangements for making payments, please contact the National Office and speak with Karen Hush (0455 061 492).

## **PART 5 – APOSTOLIC MENTORING**

We have talked about apostolic mentoring as part of Church Affiliation requirements. We also require EACH Endorsed Minister to have at least two people with whom they have an apostolic connection. Once again, please read the attached documents for a better understanding. These people are not just good friends. They need to be people who equip you and enable you to better achieve the goals related to your calling. Because churches (i.e. church leaderships) need particular apostolic support, individual Endorsed Ministers *may* look to the same people.

The important issue is not having names to complete a form but having people who genuinely care about helping you to grow in strength, focus and effectiveness. We encourage every leader to make those decisions based on what will produce the best result. So, the apostolic mentoring may be the same OR it may be different. You will need to ask those providing your apostolic connection/mentoring to read the provided documents “Apostolic Relationships” and “Apostolic Diversity” found here <https://www.crosslinknetwork.com.au/forms> and sign the form on page 4 of this application form.