



# Phillips Theological Seminary

## Reference from United Methodist Denominational Official

### To be completed by applicant:

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

Degree sought:             M.Div.     M.T.S.     M.A.M.C.

I agree that the recommendation I am requesting shall be held in confidence by the officials of Phillips Theological Seminary, and I hereby waive any rights I may have to examine it.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: If this waiver is not signed by the applicant, he/she has the right to inspect this recommendation.*

### To be completed by reference:

This applicant has given your name as one who can provide the following information as to his/her standing in the church or community to which s/he belongs.

Has the applicant been approved for pursuing ordained ministry (elder or deacon) by the Charge Conference of his/her local church?    Yes     No

If the applicant is pursuing ordained ministry, is the applicant enrolled in candidacy?    Yes     No

Has the applicant been certified as a candidate?    Yes     No

In regard to this individual's application for admission to Phillips Theological Seminary, I choose to:

- Recommend her/him.
- Not recommend her/him
- Recommend her/him, but with explanation (See attached comments.)

The faculty of Phillips Theological Seminary would appreciate your candid evaluation of the above named applicant's academic abilities and personal qualities. We are particularly interested in your comments regarding his/her promise for ministry and capacity to engage in and benefit from graduate theological education. (Please type or print this information; attach additional sheets as needed.)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to:   PTS   Office of Admissions   901 North Mingo Road   Tulsa, OK   74116-5612**

**INFORMATION ABOUT INQUIRING STUDENT ADMISSION**  
**(For Master of Divinity Degree Program)**

The **Inquiring Student admission category** is designed especially for Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, United Methodist or Evangelical Lutheran Church of America prospective students who believe they may want to prepare for ordained ministry but would like more information and seminary experience before entering into the formal denominational channels for ministerial preparation.

Inquiring Students follow regular admissions procedures for the Master of Divinity program, with the exception of the denominational reference form. Prospective Inquiring Students may ask their pastor to complete this form. Inquiring Student admission is effective for one year. Financial aid will be granted to Inquiring Students for this period, utilizing the same categories as are used for degree-seeking students.

During the year of inquiry, the student is expected to meet with the Phillips Theological Seminary denominational formation director of his/her denomination and with the appropriate judicatory representative. If the student begins seminary in the fall, s/he must provide a denominational reference from the appropriate judicatory representative by April 1 of the following year. If the student begins seminary in the spring, the denominational reference must be provided by November 1. The denominational reference should be mailed to the Department of Admissions. At that time, the student will be considered for full acceptance into the Master of Divinity degree program.

Although admission as an Inquiring Student does not guarantee acceptance into the Master of Divinity program at Phillips Theological Seminary or into the candidacy program of a particular denomination, this admission category should meet a need for those students who would like a sample of theological education and more experience with judicatory procedures before making the formal decision to prepare for ordained ministry.

If, at the end of the year of inquiry, the student is unable to provide a recommendation from a denominational official, s/he may apply for admission to the Master of Arts in Ministry and Culture or Master of Theological Studies program. Admission to these degree programs requires a reference from a pastor, but not from a district or regional denominational official.