

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
SEMINARY COVENANT COMMUNITY
FOR MEMBERSHIP AS
INDEPENDENT HOUSE CHURCH – CELL GROUPS - GROUP OF HOUSE CHURCHES**

Seminary Covenant Community (SCC) is a body duly organized for and legally able to:
Provide a 501c3 Covering, Spiritual Direction and individual and organizational accountability.

Each organization is a subordinate of SCC and is organized into three divisions:

Churches: Churches, House Churches, and Groups of Churches and Ordain persons,

Education: Educational Organizations Special Ed, Pre-K, Elementary, Middle, High Schools,
Colleges and Universities, Home School

Missions and Ministries: Missions, Ministries and Social Enterprise organizations.

Race, color, national origin or sex is not criteria for membership or ordination.

Seminary Covenant Community (SCC) will accept applications from all who apply, BUT at the discretion of review by the Board of Approvals, an applicant may be required to provide additional information, be declined for any reason or be approved and accepted into membership

FIRST: The person must be called by God to lead a House Church / Cell Group or group of House Churches. It is the duty of SCC to ratify and validate this call and the desire of applicant to be a part of the SCC fellowship.

SECOND: SCC and each of its constituent House Churches are committed to, formation of and are organized as Independent House Churches, Congregations of House Churches or Cell Groups (house churches). Each applicant must be wholeheartedly committed to small group life and practices. This must be demonstrated over a specified period of time negotiated on a case by case basis by a commitment to the small group by actively participating in the life of a Cell/ House Church; as a member, preferably as an assistant leader of such group, or even as leader. This included participating during this time in any meetings of leaders or co-leaders or training sessions.

1. Such House Church groups shall be of the style and purpose envisioned by SCC, i.e., groups that are a means of evangelism and as a means of ministry.
2. Agree with SCC Statement of Faith and By-Laws.
3. Sign and Affiliation agreement

THIRD: Each applicant for leadership must for a specified period of time negotiated on a case by case basis serve under a pastor, mentor, or leader selected by SCC who will report back to SCC an evaluation as to applicant's leadership ability; ability to be under supervision, teachable; ability to cooperate; servant's heart, communication skills; counseling and evangelistic skills.

FOURTH: Each applicant leader must demonstrate and testify by personal life fitness to be a leader, including but not limited to marriage, family, personal habits and stewardship in all phases of life. Specifically applicant:

1. Must not be a new Christian - must have an adequate number of years of demonstrated walk as a born again believer.
2. Must have no sexual relationship outside of marriage, whether adultery or as a practicing homosexual. Marriage is defined as: between one man and one women.
3. Be no drunkard-if using alcohol-using it in moderation and be committed to principles of Romans 12:1-2; 14:13-21.
4. Be no lover of money-one with good credit-good reputation in handling of money.
5. Have good reputation in Christian and non-Christian circles.
6. Have a well behaved family.

FIFTH: Each House Church/ Cell Group Leader must be approved by SCC Board of Approvals or approved by an Ordained Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Each House Church/ Cell Group leader should have completed House Church/ Cell Group Conference and be able to facilitate a small group. The leader should be accountable to an Elder or Spiritual Director under Seminary Covenant Community.

Each applicant to become an Independent House Church must submit in writing an:

1. A completed Application for House Church Affiliation,
2. Application for Leader of House Church or Cell Group
3. Ministry Profile,
4. A copy of their Articles of Association House Church,
5. A signed House Church agreement,
6. Agree with the SCC Bylaws and Articles of Faith
7. References from persons who have known the applicant for five years or more
8. Registration for the next House Church Leaders Conference.
9. Can demonstrate the ability to carry the ministry to fruition.

SIXTH: Upon application having been received and soon as it has been satisfactorily completed-it shall go to the Board of Approvals of SCC who:

1. Will indicate any additional items needed for the application.
2. When application has been fully completed, SCC will decide whether applicant is to be accepted as a Cell/ House Church group.
3. For each applicant/candidate SCC shall see that a mentor, pastor or overseer is selected to work with the applicant throughout the process of development and to provide an evaluation to SCC.
 - a. The board of SCC shall, before it makes a determination that applicant will be commissioned by SCC, must receive:
 - b. Satisfactory report for the evaluation board that academic or equivalency has been met;
 - c. Satisfactory report for the evaluator selected by SCC, who may be a pastor, mentor, or overseer;
 - d. A firm commitment in writing that applicant/candidate subscribes to the constitution and by-laws of SCC and its statement of faith and does make a firm commitment to, at all times during time of service under SCC to be a part of, preferable as leader of a House Church/ Cell Group of a constituent church in SCC fellowship.
 - e. A firm commitment in writing to continuing education under the guidance of SCC.

SCC membership requires a Minimum pledge of \$20.00 per month or more.

ALL AFFILIATION APPLICATIONS TO SCC SHALL BE DIRECTED TO THE APPROVAL BOARD WITH A PROCESSING FEE OF if association \$50.00, If corporation \$200.00.

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