



SCHOOL OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in our School of Spiritual Direction (SSD). Before you proceed in the application process we want to make sure you understand a few key details. We consider each applicant with great care. We are committed to working with you to discern whether our program is a good fit for you. It goes without saying therefore that not everyone will be accepted. It is important that you become familiar with our SSD program overview, the criteria and the process involved for applying. Please make sure you check the appropriate boxes that correspond with each category at the bottom of this page.

After completing your application (either electronically or in hard copy), you will need to send your non-refundable, non-transferable application fee of \$ 150 along with your three recommendation forms (Ministerial, Academic and Personal) to the address given on the form. Once your application is received and reviewed, you will be contacted and scheduled immediately after for a personal interview via phone or Zoom web call.

Please know that we have already begun to pray for you and that we are confident that God is guiding each of us as we discern with you.

Together in the Center,

*Margie Mach, Communications Coordinator
CenterQuest*

Please check below to confirm:

- I have read thoroughly and I understand the SSD Program Overview (including the FAQ section)
- I have familiarized myself with the Guidelines for Discernment
- I understand the basic online learning requirements for the SSD

Note: You may access the Program Overview, FAQ section, Guidelines for Discernment, and Online Learning Requirements at: <https://cqcenterquest.org/school-of-spiritual-direction/cq-intl-ssd/>



CenterQuest
School of Spiritual Direction
(SSD)

APPLICATION FORM

FULL NAME _____ DATE _____
Last First Middle Initial

ADDRESS _____
Street

State Zip Country

PHONE NUMBER _____ HOME CELL WORK (Circle your preferred number)

EMAIL _____

AGE (Please check one) _____ 30-40 _____ 40-50 _____ 50 and above

GENDER _____ Female _____ Male

ETHNIC ORIGIN (Optional) _____

OTHER SPOKEN LANGUAGES ASIDE FROM ENGLISH _____

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION _____

RELIGIOUS ORDER/ORDINATION _____

CURRENT OCCUPATION _____

HIGHEST ACADEMIC DEGREE & MAJOR _____

Please state the name(s) of anyone affiliated with CenterQuest (Founding Community, Board Member, SSD Faculty, etc.), that you know fairly well.

HOW DID YOU LEARN ABOUT CENTERQUEST SSD?

ESSAY PORTION OF APPLICATION

Note: Please use a separate sheet of paper for your typed responses to the following questions.

Please answer the essay questions in 1,000-1,500 words (max.), using a double-spaced, 12 pt. font.

- *Have you been and are you now in ongoing spiritual direction? How long have you been in direction? Would you comment briefly on your own experience of being in spiritual direction?*
- *Share with us how you experience the presence of God in your daily life? Are there any particular ways you nurture your life of faith?*
- *Trace your growing interest and desire to be a spiritual director and articulate why you feel called to be one.*
- *What is your basic understanding of spiritual direction? Based on your own understanding, identify a few of your qualities and strengths for being a spiritual director. Identify one or two areas where you feel in need of further attention, growth and/or development.*
- *What one or two life experiences have been most impactful and transformative on your spiritual journey? How do these experiences relate to your interest in becoming a spiritual director?*

For hard copy submission, send completed application to:

**CenterQuest
122 A E. Foothill Blvd., PMB 306
Arcadia, CA 91006**

RECOMMENDATION PORTION OF APPLICATION

Send each recommendation form to your recommender of choice and be sure to let each of them know the importance of the deadline date. We can only accept forms that come directly from the recommenders.

PERSONAL (to a close friend or colleague who knows you well in a personal way)

ACADEMIC (to a former or current teacher, professor, pastor, bible study leader, adult faith formation leader, or small group facilitator who knows you well in an academic sense and in that setting)

MINISTERIAL (to a person who knows you well in a ministerial sense, one with whom you have had (or presently have) some pastoral, collaborative, or mentoring relationship)

Your recommenders may submit the completed recommendations either through mail using the forms on the following pages, or online at <https://cqcenterquest.org/recommendation/>

CenterQuest
School of Spiritual Direction (SSD)
PERSONAL Recommendation Form



Dear _____,

As part of my application for the CenterQuest School of Spiritual Direction, I am asking that you kindly write this PERSONAL letter of recommendation for me. Please answer the questions below on a separate sheet of paper with your typewritten answers and attach this signed form. Kindly send the form in the mail with the enclosed SASE on or before _____.

Thank you,
Signature of Applicant _____

Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge. We are looking for 2-4 sentence answers per question. Kindly label your answers with the corresponding numbers below. Your answers will be treated in strict confidentiality.

1. How long you have known the applicant and in what specific capacity?
2. What qualities, gifts, and/or life experiences does the applicant have that makes you feel s/he is or would be an effective spiritual director?
3. What is your appraisal of the applicant's psychological and spiritual maturity?
4. Please mention one or two areas where may be in need of further growth and development?
5. Would you have any hesitation recommending this person to participate in a training program to be a spiritual director?
6. Is there anything else you would want us to know about the applicant for our discernment?

Thank you kindly for your time and assistance. Your signature below confirms that all of your assessments are true to the best of your knowledge of the applicant and that you give us permission to contact you if we need further clarification.

Signature of Recommender _____ Date _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

PLEASE MAIL COMPLETED RECOMMENDATION TO:

CenterQuest
122 A E. Foothill Blvd. PMB 306
Arcadia, CA 91006

CenterQuest
School of Spiritual Direction (SSD)
ACADEMIC Recommendation Form



Dear _____,

As part of my application for the CenterQuest School of Spiritual Direction, I am asking that you kindly write this ACADEMIC letter of recommendation for me. Please answer the questions below on a separate sheet of paper with your typewritten answers and attach this signed form. Kindly send the form in the mail with the enclosed SASE on or before _____.

Thank you,
Signature of Applicant _____

Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge. We are looking for 2-4 sentence answers per question. Kindly label your answers with the corresponding numbers below. Your answers will be treated in strict confidentiality.

1. How long you have known the applicant and in what academic setting?
2. What is your appraisal of the applicant's psychological and spiritual maturity?
3. What is your assessment of the applicant's academic abilities (e.g., Does s/he have the skill of critical thinking and the ability to listen? Does s/he exhibit appropriate interaction and participation in groups? Is s/he open and teachable? Does s/he have adequate writing skills?)?
4. Would you have any hesitation recommending this person to participate in a training program to be a spiritual director?
5. Is there anything else you would want us to know about the applicant for our discernment?

Thank you kindly for your time and assistance. Your signature below confirms that all of your assessments are true to the best of your knowledge of the applicant and that you give us permission to contact you if we need further clarification.

Signature of Recommender _____ Date _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

PLEASE MAIL COMPLETED RECOMMENDATION TO:

CenterQuest
122 A E. Foothill Blvd. PMB 306
Arcadia, CA 91006

CenterQuest
School of Spiritual Direction (SSD)
MINISTERIAL Recommendation Form



Dear _____,

As part of my application for the CenterQuest School of Spiritual Direction, I am asking that you kindly write this MINISTERIAL letter of recommendation for me. Please answer the questions below on a separate sheet of paper with your typewritten answers and attach this signed form. Kindly send the form in the mail with the enclosed SASE on or before _____.

Thank you,
Signature of Applicant _____

Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge. We are looking for 2-4 sentence answers per question. Kindly label your answers with the corresponding numbers below. Your answers will be treated in strict confidentiality.

1. How long you have known the applicant and in what ministry settings and contexts?
2. Based on what you know of the ministry of spiritual companionship (guidance, mentoring, pastoral care, spiritual direction, etc.), what qualities, gifts, and/or experiences does the applicant have that would enable him/her to accompany and guide others in their spiritual journey?
3. What is your appraisal of the applicant's psychological and spiritual maturity?
4. Please mention one or two areas of the applicant's ministerial life where s/he may be in need of further growth and development?
5. Would you have any hesitation recommending this person to participate in a training program to be a spiritual director?
6. Is there anything else you would want us to know about the applicant for our discernment?

Thank you kindly for your time and assistance. Your signature below confirms that all of your assessments are true to the best of your knowledge of the applicant and that you give us permission to contact you if we need further clarification.

Signature of Recommender _____ Date _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

PLEASE MAIL COMPLETED RECOMMENDATION TO:

CenterQuest
122 A E. Foothill Blvd. PMB 306
Arcadia, CA 91006