



## **Working Covenant**

**Seminarian:**

**Ministry setting:**

The Practice in Ministry and Mission (PM&M) office provides ministry interns with an opportunity to integrate practice in ministry and mission with their academic studies through Wesley Theological Seminary's relationships with the intern, the local church, the clergy learning partner, and the lay learning partner. This covenantal agreement outlines the responsibilities of each entity and requires each to make a commitment to fulfill their responsibilities. Each is also encouraged to initiate dialogue with the other partners when, in their judgment, it would be helpful.

Signatures may be provided by signing the document or by an email sent by the signee directly to the PM&M office at [PMMAssistant@WesleySeminary.edu](mailto:PMMAssistant@WesleySeminary.edu) stating the person's position(s) and agreement to this working covenant. The signed working covenant should be submitted no later than June 1 for summer term and by August 15 for fall/spring term. The intern has the responsibility to provide copies of the signed covenant to each of the people making the agreement.

### **Seminary Responsibilities**

- Provide a solid academic learning environment.
- Provide linkage between parish, interns, and congregation and/or denominational authority.
- Evaluate the pastoring intern's ministry.
- Pray regularly for interns and all participants in the Practice in Ministry and Mission Program.
- Provide a group to reflect on ministerial practice and provide regular feedback to the intern.

### **Local Church Responsibilities**

- Commit to be a ministry setting and teaching congregation as preparers of the next generation of pastoral leaders through a 9-month fall/spring or 9-week summer ministry internship. If this relationship is extended as an elective, this covenant will remain in effect.
- Form a learning partner group composed of intern, a lay member of the congregation, and a nearby clergy partner that meets monthly for the 9-month internship and weekly for the 9-week internship.
- Encourage and support the intern's academic responsibilities.
- Enable the intern to relate academic work to the life of the parish.

- Pray regularly for the intern, the learning partners, the denominational authority, and Wesley Theological Seminary.
- Work with the intern in ministry in and through the church.
- Encourage the intern to set aside a regular Sabbath day for rest and recreation.

### **Intern Responsibilities**

- Participate in the PM&M online orientation session, required for participation in an internship. For the 9-week internship, the June orientation is the required session.
- Select a clergy learning partner in consultation with the PM&M office.
- Spend adequate time in courses and in preparation for a solid academic experience.
- Serve the local church both faithfully and effectively.
- Relate theory and practice in the context of the congregational setting, bringing together the reality of the local church and the seminary in the educational process.
- Meet with the learning partners monthly for the 9-month internship and weekly for the 9-week internship.
- Engage in the internship evaluation process.
- Participate in the PM&M reflections group and Blackboard assignments throughout the internship that meets weekly for the 9-month internship and several times for the 9-week internship.
- Regularly take a Sabbath day of rest.

### **Learning Partner Responsibilities**

- Meet monthly with the fall/spring intern or weekly with the summer intern for theological and leadership reflection.
- Provide regular support and affirmation of the intern.
- Interpret the program to the local church and denominational connection.
- Participate in the PM&M online orientation session, required for participation in an internship. For the 9-week internship, the June orientation is the required session.
- Develop learning goals with the intern and evaluate the intern's ministry.

We agree to fulfill our part of the PM&M Program working covenant:

Intern Date

Chair, pastor-parish relations, personnel, or governing board Date

Lay Learning Partner Date

Are you the SPRC Chairperson?      Yes              No

Clergy Learning Partner Date