

PARENT-AFFILIATED CHURCH REQUIREMENTS

The heart of the Parent-Affiliated Church (PAC) model has been to provide an effective means for creative efforts in both church planting and church revitalization within the Assemblies of God. Understanding that this model has fostered a multitude of creative expressions in advancing the work of the local church, the following pre-conditions, requirements, and best practices represent the desire of the Assemblies of God fellowship to remain united, to keep communication lines clear, and to ensure the most optimal environments for PAC church plants and revitalizations to succeed long-term.

PRE-CONDITIONS TO PAC CHARTERING:

1. Personal communication is crucial to relationship. No PAC shall be chartered under any circumstances without communication from the potential parent church lead pastor with his/her home district leadership and (if different) the district leadership of the geographic district (or language district, if applicable) in which the potential PAC resides. The expectation is that this communication will take place at the onset of discussions PRIOR to any launch or relaunch of the potential PAC.
2. When an existing church, whether district affiliated or general council affiliated, is desiring to enter into a PAC arrangement with a parent church in another district, there shall be a meeting with the pastor of that church, the parent church lead pastor, the district superintendent of the parent church, and the district superintendent of the location of the church desiring revitalization, whether geographic or language/ethnic. If there is not a unanimous consensus, an appeal for assistance to the standing PAC Committee including the appropriate nonresident executive presbyter(s) may be made by any of the parties.
3. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) must be signed by the parent church, the PAC (in cases of revitalization), and the district leadership of the geographic district (or language district, if applicable) in which the parent church resides. In the case of dual-district PACs, the district leadership of the geographic district (or language district, if applicable) in which the potential PAC resides shall be a party of the MOU.

REQUIREMENTS:

4. To ensure PACs are best supported and resourced, the General Council will identify the location of PACs within the district in which they are located for recording and statistical purposes.
5. All new PAC pastors must hold a General Council credential or, at minimum, an Assemblies of God local church-based credential, including background checks. Districts can supply names of companies that provide background checks. For the PAC pastor only holding a local church-based credential, it is the parent church and the General Council church issuing the local church-based credential (if different) to perform and maintain the record of background checks for their PAC pastor.

**District(s) also refers to network(s).*

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Said local church-based credentials must be reported annually to the district where the credential is held and the General Council (Bylaws Article VII, Section 1.). A lead pastor of a PAC holding only a local church-based credential will be encouraged to advance to a recognized General Council credential. The district will assure there are no PACs being led, pastored, or overseen by a dismissed minister.

6. PAC pastors must hold their credentials in the geographic district (or language district, if applicable) in which the PAC pastor resides. Any exception to this must be approved by both districts impacted by the dual-district PAC. Another obvious exception would be for the PAC pastor who holds a local church credential with the church located in a different district.
7. Districts may not impose external criteria, i.e., local district requirements for church planting, on parent churches seeking to plant in their district. In cases of planting dual-district PACs, district approval will not be required, but communication with district leadership of both the parent church's home district and the PAC's district is required. (*See PRE-CONDITIONS #1-3.)
8. The general superintendent will appoint a standing PAC Committee of three individuals, to work with Church Multiplication Network (CMN) and the districts to facilitate the advancement of church planting and church revitalization. The PAC Committee's duties shall include ongoing circulation, distribution, and enforcement of the Executive Presbytery approved PAC Requirements. When resolving a conflict, the standing PAC Committee shall involve the appropriate nonresident executive presbyter and report out, when necessary, to the Executive Presbytery in session.

BEST PRACTICES:

9. In order to track growth and record ministry efforts of PACs from their inception, parent church lead pastors are responsible to see that an individual Annual Church Ministries Report (ACMR) is submitted by each PAC or complete it for them. While the report is only required annually, it benefits the PAC, parent church, and district most when data is submitted each weekend using the online platform found at <https://acmr.ag.org>. Parent churches are encouraged to calculate internally and self-report a grand total of all stateside brick-and-mortar attendees from PACs and the parent church for the purpose of celebration, recognition, and identification with the "Churches Over 1,000" report provided to CMN, and they are to report this number on a separate line on the ACMR.
10. Parent church lead pastors will encourage the involvement of PAC pastors within the district and section of residence, whenever possible. At a minimum, annual communication between the parent church and the district in which the PAC is located will be the responsibility of the parent church lead pastor.

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