

APPLICATION MATERIALS

In addition to the completed application form on the reverse side, to consider your application we need:

1. Official transcripts from each academic institution you have attended to date, plus records of other study you believe are pertinent. Official transcripts are documents sent directly from one institution to another. For further information about adequacy of transcripts, please call the Program Manager at (415) 451-2838.
2. Three references using the forms enclosed. There is a space provided on the reference form for waiving right of access to recommendations. You should send one form to each reference along with a **stamped envelope** addressed to the Program Manager, Diploma in Spiritual Formation Studies, San Francisco Theological Seminary, 105 Seminary Rd., San Anselmo, CA 94960.

REFERENCES:

- A. a person who can reflect on your academic ability
- B. a person who can attest to your understanding of and relationship to the church
- C. a personal friend

Please list the names and addresses of your references corresponding to the above list:

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____

3. A short (not over five typewritten pages) response to the following:
 - A. Describe the living context out of which you do your ministry (i.e., its environment/setting, your inner world, your relationships, the systems and structures that hold meaning for you, your connection to the faith community).
 - B. Identify one event within the past ten years in which you deeply encountered God, describing how this experience has affected your sense of yourself, others and the movements of God within you and your life.
 - C. Describe your styles of prayer and your sense of God's movement in your prayer.
 - D. Write about anything else you would like for us to know about you.
 - E. In no more than two pages (of the five), reflect on a book that has been important for your own spiritual formation, describing what it "said" to your life, why that was meaningful for you and the ways your spirituality has changed, deepened or grown as a result of reading it.
4. If English is not the primary language in which you converse and read, a copy of your TOEFL score. (A score of 550 or higher is required for admission to the seminary.)
5. A \$40.00 non-refundable application fee. (If you are applying concurrently to an SFTS degree program, you need not include an application fee with your DSFS application.)

Note: All admission materials become part of the seminary's record, with the exception of the letters of reference, which are destroyed after admissions decisions.

I hereby apply to be admitted as a student in the Diploma in Spiritual Formation Studies program at San Francisco Theological Seminary.

Applicant Signature

Date

**DIPLOMA IN SPIRITUAL FORMATION STUDIES
REFERENCE FORM**

Applicant name

Reference name

Applicant address

Reference address

Reference profession/ministry

Applicant: Please complete the first section, including your signature, and give this form and an addressed envelope to the appropriate reference.

I understand that this recommendation will be used only for the purpose of admission, that I have the right to access or may waive my right of access to it and that failure to check a line and sign it renders access void.

_____ I hereby waive my right of access to this recommendation.

_____ I hereby do not waive my right of access to this recommendation.

Applicant Signature

Date

The Diploma in Spiritual Formation Studies is offered by the Program in Christian Spirituality to cultivate the spiritual life of women and men, particularly within the Protestant context. We define spiritual formation as a mystical relationship between God and humankind. It is grounded in a covenantal theology based upon God's initiative as expressed most deeply by Christ's indwelling with an emphasis on Scripture, prayer, sacramental and other ritual expressions focused on the congregation.

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Please note: It will help us if you recognize, as we do, that a wholly positive report is not apt to be balanced, complete or useful.

1. How long and in what context have you know the applicant?

2. Does the applicant know and appreciate the faith tradition that she/he currently professes? Describe.

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