

Missions
POLICY
9th Edition

**Wesley Methodist Church, Singapore
Missions Ministry**

FOREWORD



The Missions Policy--since its first publication (1984)--has served us well. Changes and new challenges in missions require a thorough review, thus this ninth edition. Major changes, among other things, include:

Combining Previously Known Section E and Section F

The distinguishing features of overseas missionaries in Section E vis-à-vis that of Section F are increasingly being blurred. In our current practice, apart from the application process and the support ceilings, there is no significant difference between a Section E missionary and a Section F missionary. Also a survey of missions policies of a number of churches shows that they do not have two different categories of missionaries. Therefore this revised edition has combined Section E and Section F.

Increase in Quantum of Support

The last time the quantum of support for the different categories of missionaries or full-time Christian workers was revised was in the Missions Policy review of 2004. There was also no increase in the quantum of support in the last Missions Policy review in 2007.

This ninth edition provides an increase in the support ceilings.

Provisions for Urgent Conclusion of Missionary Service

The Missions Policy now provides support for a missionary when he or she exits the field on an urgent basis. This includes a provision for re-training.

While policy changes incorporating new needs are important, we nevertheless cannot ignore that our mission efforts are our obedient responses to our Lord Jesus who commands us, "Go and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you." This sets us in perspective in that the Missions Policy is to help our decision-making process. However, the real agent of our mission endeavours is the Holy Spirit.

With that in mind, let us remember to serve the Lord with gladness and trust!

Yours in His Service

Rev Melvin Huang
Pastor-in-Charge
July 2010

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Section A

Introduction

1 Biblical Basis for Missions

Wesley Methodist Church (hereinafter “Wesley Church”) is committed to MISSIONS in obedience to the specific command of our Lord Jesus to “go and make disciples of all nations” (Matt 28:19, 20). In the power of the Holy Spirit, we are to be His witnesses “unto the uttermost parts of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

Even as our Lord Jesus was sent by the Father, so He sends us into the world (Jn 17:18;20:21) to share God’s love (1 Jn 4:9,10,14) and His compassion (Matt 9:36) as embodied in the Gospel (Jn 3:16). God has committed to us the message of reconciliation and sent us into the world as ambassadors of Christ (2 Cor 5:19, 20).

2 Aim

The aim of our missions programme is to encourage and support the spread of the Gospel and the establishment of the Body of Christ in other countries, especially among people groups where the Gospel is not readily available.

3 The Scope of Missions Programme

To achieve our aim, Wesley Church will encourage and support:

- a Missionaries commissioned by Wesley Church.
- b Persons who are engaged full-time in the Lord’s service.
- c Tentmakers in a foreign country.
- d Persons who undergo study / training with a view to entering full-time or tent-making ministry.

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- e Christian organisations which are actively involved in bringing the Gospel to people in other countries.
 - f Mission trips which will nurture our members in the area of missions and provide opportunities to minister to people in other countries.
 - g An active programme to challenge and guide the members of our congregation to fulfil our responsibilities in the area of missions.

Section B

Missions Policy

4 Purpose

To provide Wesley Church with clear consistent guidelines in our missionary endeavour.

5 Revision

This Policy shall be reviewed every 3 years by the Missions Committee in consultation with the Pastor-In-Charge. The changes in Policy are to be approved by the Local Church Executive Committee (hereinafter "LCEC").

6 Exceptions

This Policy statement is designed to provide general guidelines and direction. Any exception to the Policy requires the approval of the LCEC, in consultation with the Pastor-In-Charge.

Section C

Missions Committee

7 Responsibilities

The overall responsibilities of the Missions Committee are to:

- a Make our congregation aware of the Biblical basis for their Christian responsibility in the field of missions.
- b Inform our congregation of the state and needs of our missionaries, mission fields and the missionary organisations we support.
- c Encourage our congregation in the task of intercessory prayer for world missions / evangelisation, and for our missionaries.
- d Care for the missionaries supported by Wesley Church, and to encourage our congregation to do the same.
- e Identify, nurture and evaluate suitable members of Wesley Church with the call to tentmaking, short-term ministries and full-time pastoral or cross-cultural ministries.
- f Send out missionaries and full-time workers into the field, locally or overseas, in collaboration with mission agencies or para-church organisations.
- g Serve as a liaison between Wesley Church and our missionaries, our students, and the missionary organisations we support.

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- h Organise a missions education programme (including overseas missions trips and missions seminars), to expose and challenge our congregation and so bring missions into the very fabric of our church life.
 - i Develop and administer the church funds and designated giving allocated to Missions and Training Support.
 - j Implement the Missions Policy and review it every three years.

Section D

Missions Support

8 Expressions of Support

Wesley Church's support is expressed in terms of our prayer, financial giving, as well as care and interest in God's work through each person / organisation.

This is an indication of Wesley Church's approval of that person / organisation, and groups within Wesley Church are actively encouraged to support such persons / organisations with their prayers and Christian concern.

9 Designated Giving

Individuals and groups within Wesley Church are also encouraged to send financial support to such persons / organisations, through Wesley Church. However these amounts will be taken into consideration when determining the amount of church support to be given.

Such designated gifts are to be administered by the Missions Committee in accordance with the instructions of the giver(s).

10 General

- a The Missions Committee will determine the level of financial support based on a scale within the guidelines under “Level of Financial Support” in Sections E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L and M.
- b The Missions Committee has the discretion to extend / refuse support to any person / organisation notwithstanding the fact that such a person / organisation satisfied the “Requirements” listed in the relevant sections.
- c The Missions Committee may reach an understanding with the person / organisation being supported, as to his / her / its commitment to Wesley Church or other forms of Christian service in general. However, no bond should be imposed.
- d The Missions Committee shall determine the level of church support within the guidelines under “Level of Financial Support” in Sections G, K and M for missions projects. The needs and circumstances of each project shall be considered in determining the level of support. Such projects should seek to improve the immediate livelihood of the people for the purposes of reaching out and not for infrastructural development of the country.
- e Wesley Church shall not undertake any business enterprise or endeavours.

Career Missionaries/ Full-Time Workers in Christian Organisations

11 Requirements

Those who serve God as career missionaries / full-time workers are specially chosen and blessed by Him. It is therefore important that Wesley Church identifies these candidates correctly, and ensures that they are adequately prepared before they are sent out.

Candidates who will be career missionaries overseas shall involve the Missions Committee, preferably, at the outset of his / her missionary interest in a foreign and cross-cultural context. This is to enable Wesley Church to affirm the candidate's calling, and to identify his / her gifts, ministry skills and scope and field of ministry.

Thus the candidate must:

- a Be a member of Wesley Church for at least 24 months.
- b Be convicted of God's call to serve full-time in bringing the Gospel to people in other countries; or be convicted of God's call to full-time Christian service.
- c Be recommended by two referees who are actively serving members of Wesley Church.
- d Have demonstrated spiritual gifts consistent with his / her calling.

- e Have integrity and display considerable maturity in his / her spiritual life.
- f Be of sound mind and good physical health.

To enable Wesley Church to form a more accurate assessment of the candidate's capabilities and calling, it is normally expected that the candidate will have a proven record (two years) of faithful service in a position of leadership and responsibility within the church.

12 Procedure for Application / Approval

- a On clear indication of interest or referral for full-time cross-cultural missions / service, the Missions Committee will meet the candidate to nurture and counsel the person as well as to affirm his / her calling.
- b If necessary, the Missions Committee will meet with the missions organisation/agency which the candidate hopes to work with
- c The candidate will fill in the prescribed Application Form and submit this to the Missions Committee preferably 3 months in advance of the desired date of commencement of support.
- d Upon the direction of the Missions Committee, the candidate shall undergo a medical examination by a duly appointed medical practitioner, and a psychological assessment by an appointed professional / counsellor. The reports will be submitted to the Missions Committee.
- e The Missions Committee will prayerfully consider the application and interview the candidate.

Overseas Career Missionaries

- f Where the candidate is an overseas career missionary, the Pastor-in-Charge and the Missions Chairperson will interview the candidate.
- g The Missions Chairperson, on behalf of the Missions Committee, together with the Pastor-in-Charge will present their recommendations to LCEC.
- h The LCEC will make the final decision, and the Pastor-in-Charge will inform the candidate of the decision.

Career Missionary in Singapore / Full-time Christian Worker

- i If the candidate is a career missionary in Singapore / full-time Christian worker, the Missions Committee will decide on whether to support the candidate, and inform LCEC of the decision.
- j The Pastor-In-Charge will inform the candidate of the decision.
- k If accepted, the candidate who is a career missionary overseas will be commended to the church, and commissioned as a “Missionary of Wesley Methodist Church, Singapore”.

13 Level of Financial Support

- a Financial support of up to \$7,000 per month for overseas career missionaries; and up to \$5,000 per month for career missionaries in Singapore / full-time Christian worker.
- b For career missionaries overseas, full initial airfare of up to \$6,000/- for the missionary and immediate family to the mission field; and one-time relocation expense of up to \$5,000/-.

- c For career missionaries overseas, airfare of up to \$6,000/- back to Singapore for the missionary and immediate family at the end of missionary service in a particular field or agency. Such service should not be less than 2 years except for extenuating circumstances.
- d A contribution to exceptional expenses (e.g., airfare, loss of property) of up to \$5,000/- per year.
- e Overseas career missionaries who are recalled (e.g., as a result of civil unrest / political turmoil or natural disaster, an outbreak or the threat of an outbreak of an epidemic, etc.) will continue to receive financial support for up to a period of 6 months, subject to review.
- f Where appropriate, Wesley Church will contribute to the retirement needs of the missionary / full-time Christian worker. This will be via monthly support while the missionary / full-time Christian worker is in service. The amount of contribution will be based on the Central Provident Fund prevailing rates.
- g When a missionary / full-time Christian worker has to end his / her mission career due to extenuating circumstances the Mission Committee will endeavour to assist in the exit plan. If interim support is warranted, support up to 6 months may be provided. Disbursement of such support must take place within 6 months of the end of the missionary / full-time Christian worker's career. In addition financial support of up to \$5,000/- for the purposes of re-training the missionary / full-time Christian worker may be provided over a period of up to 6 months.
- h Where appropriate, Wesley Church may provide an end-of-service gratuity of no more than \$2,000 provided the missionary / full-time Christian worker has served more than 5 years.

14 Insurance

For career missionaries overseas, Wesley Church will work with the missionary organisations to ensure that appropriate personal insurance (for example Hospitalisation & Surgical Insurance, Personal Accident and International SOS) are properly handled, contributing towards these as necessary. These contributions will be over and above the support specified in the preceding section.

15 Responsibilities of Career Missionary/Full-Time Christian Workers to Wesley Church

The responsibilities of the missionary/full-time Christian worker are:

- a To provide quarterly reports of their ministries and needs to the Missions Committee. The Missions Committee may review the career missionary's/full-time Christian worker's financial support if quarterly reports have not been submitted for a continuous period of two quarters without the approval of the Missions Committee.
- b To obtain approval from Wesley Church and the Missions Agency before any major changes such as field location, agency affiliation, type of ministry, etc., are made.
- c For career missionaries overseas, at the request of Wesley Church, and in consultation with the Missions Agency to return home from the mission field following any event that may endanger the missionary's life (e.g., an outbreak or the threat of an outbreak of an epidemic in the field or an act of war or terrorism). The re-entry into the field shall be decided by the Church in consultation with the missionary and the relevant Missions Agency. Wesley Church reserves the right to disallow the missionary to re-enter, if the situation in the field is deemed unsuitable.

- d To declare all financial support that the missionary / full-time Christian worker has received for the year. Such financial support shall include support for projects undertaken by the missionary / full-time Christian worker and / or the Missions Agency.
- e To develop and maintain regular communication with Wesley Church, especially by sharing prayer requests, ministry challenges and progress, at least monthly via one member of the Missions Committee / Sub-Committee, or via the Pastoral Team Member for Missions
- f At the request of the Missions Committee, the missionary shall undergo a psychological assessment by an appointed professional / counsellor. The report shall be submitted to the Missions Committee.
- g To abide by this Missions Policy.

16 Annual Leave & Furlough

- a All missionaries / full-time Christian workers are eligible for annual leave. The missionary shall be eligible for no more than 20 days of annual leave if he has less than 10 years of service, or no more than 28 days if he has 10 or more years of service.
- b Only missionaries working in overseas mission fields are entitled to a period of furlough which will be a period of re-upgrading and re-equipping to prepare them for further ministry, of deputation and of rest prior to returning to the mission field. The furlough period is not to be mainly for the purpose of rest, as that should be provided for under the missionary's annual leave.

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- c The frequency and period of the furlough shall be in accordance with the policy of the Missions Agency with whom the missionary serves. In the absence of such a provision, it is recommended that the missionary serve a minimum of 3 years continuously before an application for furlough can be made in writing to the Missions Committee. Thereafter furlough may be considered for every 3 years of continuous service. The length of such furlough shall be up to 6 months.
 - d The actual duration and programme of the furlough shall be determined by the Missions Committee in consultation with the missionary and his / her Missions Agency.
 - e Missionaries who are entitled to go on furlough shall inform the Church about their plans at the earliest possible opportunity, but not less than 3 months before the start of furlough.
 - f Wesley Church will support the return airfare and provide continued financial support during the period of furlough. As far as possible the missionary should not break up the period of furlough into two periods. However if the needs of the field require that this be so, the missionary will be supported with airfare once only.

Section F

Itinerant Worker

17 Requirements

Those who serve God as itinerant workers are specially chosen and blessed by Him. It is important that Wesley Church identifies these candidates correctly. Each candidate shall involve the Missions Committee, preferably, at the outset of his / her interest as a non-residential missionary in a foreign and cross-cultural context. This is to enable Wesley Church to affirm the candidate's calling, and to identify his / her gifts, ministry skills and scope and field of ministry.

Thus the candidate must:

- a Be a member of Wesley Church for at least 24 months.
- b Have served at least 3 years as a missionary of Wesley Church under Section E of the Missions Policy.
- c Be convicted of God's call to serve in an itinerant manner in order to bring the Gospel to people in other countries. These are typically retiring missionaries or missionaries who have family commitments in Singapore and cannot be in the field for a longer period of time.
- d Be recommended by two referees who are actively serving members of Wesley Church.
- e Have demonstrated spiritual gifts consistent with his / her calling.

f Have integrity and display considerable maturity in his / her spiritual life.

g Be of sound mind and in good physical health.

The candidate would need to commit to at least a two-year term, with at least two periods of 3 continuous months in the field for each year.

18 Procedure for Application / Approval

a On clear indication of interest or referral as an itinerant worker, the Missions Committee will meet the candidate to nurture and counsel the person.

b If necessary, the Missions Committee will meet with the Missions Agency which the candidate hopes to work with.

c The candidate will fill in the prescribed Application Form and submit this to the Missions Committee preferably 3 months in advance of the desired date of commencement of support.

d The Missions Committee will prayerfully consider the application and make its recommendation to the Pastor-In-Charge.

e Upon the direction of the Missions Committee, the candidate shall undergo medical examination by a duly appointed medical practitioner, and a psychological assessment by an appointed professional / counsellor. The reports will be submitted to the Missions Committee.

f The Pastor-In-Charge and the Missions Chairperson will interview the candidate and present their recommendations to the LCEC.

g The LCEC will make the final decision, and the Pastor-In-Charge will inform the candidate of the decision.

19 Level of Financial Support

- a Financial support of up to \$5,000/- per month, while the missionary is in the field. There will not be any support when the itinerant worker is based in Singapore.
- b Return airfare for the itinerant worker for each period of 3 continuous months in the field.
- c A contribution to exceptional expenses (e.g., airfare, loss of property) of up to \$5,000/- per financial year.
- d An itinerant worker who is recalled back to Singapore (e.g., as a result of civil unrest / political turmoil or natural disaster, an outbreak or the threat of an outbreak of an epidemic, etc.) will not receive financial support upon return to Singapore.
- e Where appropriate, Wesley Church will contribute towards the missionary's Central Provident Fund.

20 Responsibilities of the Itinerant Worker to Wesley Church

The responsibilities of the itinerant worker are:

- a To provide quarterly reports of ministries and needs to the Missions Committee. The Missions Committee may review the itinerant worker's financial support if quarterly reports have not been submitted for a continuous period of two quarters without the approval of the Missions Committee.
- b To obtain approval from Wesley Church and the Missions Agency before any major changes such as field location, agency affiliation, type of ministry, etc., are made.

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- c At the request of Wesley Church in consultation with the Missions Agency to return home from the mission field following any event that may endanger the missionary's life (e.g., an outbreak or the threat of an outbreak of an epidemic in the field or an act of war or terrorism). The re-entry into the field shall be decided by Wesley Church in consultation with the itinerant worker and the Missions Agency. Wesley Church reserves the right to disallow the itinerant worker to re-enter, if the situation in the field is deemed unsuitable.
 - d To declare all financial support that the itinerant worker has received for the year. Such financial support shall include support for projects undertaken by the itinerant worker and / or the Missions Agency.
 - e To develop and maintain regular communication with Wesley Church, especially by sharing prayer requests, ministry challenges and progress, at least monthly via one member of the Mission Committee / Sub-Committee, or via the Pastoral Team Member for Missions.
 - f At the request of the Missions Committee, the itinerant worker shall undergo a psychological assessment by an appointed professional / counsellor. The report shall be submitted to the Missions Committee.
 - g In an unforeseen event whereby the itinerant worker is unable to fulfil any of the requirements of service (e.g., two continuous 3 month periods in the field per year for a two year period), to inform the Missions Committee at the earliest opportunity. The Missions Committee will present their recommendations of waiver of requirements, if any, to the LCEC.
 - h To abide by this Missions Policy.

Section G

Tentmakers

21 Requirements

Those who serve as tentmakers seek to make Christ known cross-culturally by means of secular employment, business or studies in areas where a traditional missionary would not be permitted. Tentmakers who work through a Christian organisation and need to raise their support will be considered as missionaries under Sections E. Only those who do not fall under Sections E will be considered in this section.

It is important that Wesley Church identifies them correctly, and ensures that they are adequately prepared before they are sent out. Thus the candidates must:

- a Be a member of Wesley Church for at least 12 months.
- b Be convicted of God's call to serve as a tentmaker.
- c Be recommended by two referees who are actively serving members of Wesley Church.
- d Have demonstrated spiritual gifts consistent with his / her calling.
- e Have integrity and display considerable maturity in his / her spiritual life.

To enable Wesley Church to form a more accurate assessment of the candidate's capabilities and calling, it is normally expected that the candidate will have a proven record of faithful service in a position of responsibility within the church.

22 Procedure for Application / Approval

- a The candidate will fill in the prescribed Application Form and submit it to the Missions Committee preferably 3 months in advance of the desired date of commencement of support.
- b The Missions Committee and the Pastor-In-Charge will arrange to meet the candidate to get to know, nurture and counsel him / her as well as to affirm his / her calling.
- c The Missions Committee and the Pastor-In-Charge will prayerfully consider the application and decide whether or not to approve the application.
- d The Missions Chairperson will inform the LCEC of the decision.
- e The candidate will be informed of the decision by the Pastor-in-Charge.

23 Level of Financial Support

Up to \$4,000/- per annum for appropriate missions project or ministry contributions.

Up to \$2,000/- per annum for ministry related training to further equip the tentmaker, on a co-funding basis.

24 Responsibilities of the Tentmaker to Wesley Church

The responsibilities of the tentmaker are:

- a To provide quarterly reports of ministries and needs to the Missions Committee.
- b To consult Wesley Church before any major changes.

- c To develop and maintain regular communication with Wesley Church, especially by sharing prayer requests, ministry challenges and progress, at least monthly via one member of the Missions Committee / Sub-Committee, or via the Pastoral Team Member for Missions.
- d To abide by this Missions Policy.

Section H

Short-Term Workers

25 Purpose

To nurture Wesleyans by providing the opportunity to experience cross-cultural missions work via short-term attachment with missions / Christian organisations outside of Singapore.

Such organisation must:

- a Be actively involved in bringing the Gospel to people in countries other than Singapore especially to people who do not have ready access to the Gospel.
- b Uphold the Gospel with sound evangelical doctrine.

Preferably the organisation should:

- a Have an active Wesley Church member associated with it.
- b Be prepared to accept Wesley Church members into its field force for a short-term period.
- c Be prepared to accept the candidate as a long-term worker if the candidate is found suitable.
- d Maintain good communication with Wesley Church.

26 Duration of Attachment

The duration of the attachment shall be from 4 to 18 months.

27 Requirements

The candidate must:

- a Be a member of Wesley Church for at least 12 months.
- b Be convicted to seriously consider and explore full-time Christian ministry through personal involvement.
- c Be recommended by two referees who are actively serving members of Wesley Church.
- d Have spiritual gifts and skills consistent with the needs in the country and field of service.
- e Be of sound mind and in good physical health.

To enable Wesley Church to form a more accurate assessment of the candidate's capabilities and seriousness to serve in a short-term mission, it is normally expected that the candidate has a proven record of faithful service in a position of responsibility within the church.

28 Procedure for Application / Approval

- a The candidate will fill in the prescribed Application Form and submit it to the Missions Committee preferably 3 months in advance of the desired date of commencement of support.
- b The Missions Committee and the Pastor-In-Charge will arrange to meet the candidate to get to know, nurture and counsel him / her as well as to affirm the candidate's desire to serve in short-term missions.

- c If necessary, the Missions Committee will meet with the organisation / agency concerned.
- d If so directed by the Missions Committee, the candidate must undergo a medical examination by a duly appointed medical practitioner, and a psychological assessment by an appointed professional / counsellor. The reports will be submitted to the Missions Committee.
- e The Missions Chairperson will inform the LCEC of the decision.
- f The candidate will be informed of the decision by the Missions Committee.

29 Level of Financial Support

- a Financial support of up to \$3,000/- per month.
- b Up to a return air-fare for the worker; and a one-time relocation expense of up to \$3,000/-.
- c Wesleyans on short-term attachment who are recalled to Singapore (e.g., as a result of civil unrest / political turmoil or natural disaster, an outbreak or the threat of an outbreak of an epidemic in the field or an act of war or terrorism) will continue to receive financial support for a period of up to two months, subject to review.

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- d Where appropriate, Wesley Church will contribute to the retirement needs of the short-term worker. This will be via monthly support while the short-term worker is in service. The amount of contribution will be based on the Central Provident Fund prevailing rates.

30 Responsibilities of the Short-Term Worker to Wesley Church

The responsibilities of the short-term worker are:

- a To provide reports of his / her ministries and needs at an interval or frequency as agreed by the short-term worker and the Missions Committee.
- b To declare all financial support that the short-term worker has / will receive for the period of attachment. Such financial support shall include support for projects undertaken by the worker.
- c To develop and maintain regular communication with Wesley Church, especially by sharing prayer requests, ministry challenges and progress, at least monthly via one member of the Missions Committee / Sub-Committee, or via the Pastoral Team Member for Missions.
- d To provide a comprehensive report at the end of the term with the purpose of helping Wesley Church better understand the short-term worker's level of mission interests and the needs in the field of service.
- e To abide by the Missions Policy.

Section I

Training Support

31 Requirements

The prospective student / trainee must:

- a Be a member of Wesley Church for at least 12 months.
- b Be convicted of God's call to pursue a course in Christian / theological studies, or undergo training in Christian ministry with a view to entering full-time Christian service.
- c Be recommended by two referees who are actively serving members of Wesley Church.
- d Demonstrate a commitment and dedication to do God's will.
- e Be of sound mind and good physical health.

To enable Wesley Church to form a more accurate assessment of the candidate's capabilities and calling, it is normally expected that the candidate will have a proven record of faithful service in a position of responsibility within the church.

32 Procedure for Application / Approval

- a The candidate will fill in the prescribed Application Form and submit it to the Missions Committee preferably 6 months in advance of the desired date of commencement of support.
- b The Missions Committee and the Pastor-In-Charge will arrange to meet the candidate to get to know, nurture and counsel him / her as well as to affirm his / her calling.
- c The Missions Committee and the Pastor-In-Charge will prayerfully consider the application and decide whether or not to approve the application.

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- d Upon the direction of the Missions Committee, the candidate shall undergo a medical examination by a duly appointed medical practitioner and psychological assessment by an appointed professional / counsellor. The reports will be submitted to the Missions Committee.
 - e The Missions Chairperson will inform the LCEC of the decision.
 - f The candidate will be informed of the decision by the Pastor-In-Charge.

33 Level of Financial Support

Up to full course fees (excluding board and lodging, unless there are exceptional circumstances otherwise) plus a contribution to expenses of up to \$2,000/- per month. This will be for the period up to the expected completion time of the course, as determined by the Missions Committee.

34 Responsibilities of the Student/ Trainee to Wesley Church

The responsibilities of the student / trainee are:

- a To provide regular reports of needs to the Missions Committee.
- b To declare all financial support that the student/ trainees has received for the year. Such financial support shall include support for projects undertaken by him / her.
- c To consult with Wesley Church before any major changes in his / her course or training.
- d To develop and maintain regular communication with Wesley Church, especially by sharing prayer requests, ministry challenges and progress, at least monthly via one member of the Missions Committee / Sub-Committee, or via the Pastoral Team Member for Missions.
- e To abide by this Missions Policy.

Section J

Short-Term Courses

35 Requirements

The perspective student / trainee must:

- a Be a member of Wesley Church for at least 12 months.
- b Pursue a course in Christian / theological studies or undergo training in Christian ministry.
- c Be committed to active involvement in Wesley Church.

The duration of the course should not exceed 6 months “full-time” or 24 months “part-time”.

Such a course should be undertaken with a commitment to serve in a related ministry.

36 Procedure for Application / Approval

- a The candidate will fill in the prescribed application form and submit it to the Missions Committee, giving details of his / her background, the nature of the course and his / her reasons for wanting to attend the course. This should be done at least two months prior to the commencement of the course.
- b If necessary, the Missions Committee will arrange to meet the candidate to get to know and counsel him / her.
- c The Missions Committee will prayerfully consider the application, and advise the candidate of its decision.

37 Level of Financial Support

Up to full course fees, or a contribution to expenses of up to \$800/-.

Support For Christian Organisations

38 Requirements

The Christian organisation must:

- a Be actively involved in bringing the Gospel to people in countries other than Singapore, especially people who do not have ready access to the Gospel.

- b Uphold the Gospel in accordance with sound evangelical doctrine.

Preferably the organisation should:

- a Have an active Wesley Church member associated with it.

- b Be prepared to accept Wesley Church members into its field force.

- c Maintain good communication with Wesley Church.

39 Level of Financial Support

- a Up to \$4,800/- per annum in terms of general (unspecified) mission support, plus

- b Up to \$5,000/- per annum for specific mission projects undertaken by any one organisation, plus

- c Up to \$5,000/- per annum designated support of a specified field worker.

Section L

Mission Trips

40 Aim

To challenge Wesleyans to respond to needs in the mission field and facilitate their direct involvement through:

- a Organising mission trips to various parts of the world.
- b Helping to prepare mission trippers through various training programmes such as STEPPING OUT, etc.
- c Supporting Wesleyans, viz members of Wesley Church, worshippers at Wesley Church, or participants of Wesley Church outreach programmes who go on mission trips organised by Christian organizations that meet the requirements of Section K.

The main purpose and itinerary of the trip must be for missions work. The duration of the trip should not exceed 3 months.

Application for sponsorship should be made to the Missions Committee at least two months prior to the trip on the prescribed Application form.

The applicant will be interviewed by the Mission Trips Sub-Committee prior to their recommendation to the Missions Committee for approval.

41 Level of Financial Support

- a Financial subsidies from Wesley Church should not exceed 75% of the total expenditure. Pastors and professional staff of Wesley Church will be entitled to 100% of the total expenditure of an approved trip.
- b Training trips made by full-time workers supported by Wesley Church under Section E for the purposes of training should come under Sections I or J.

42 Report

A report shall be submitted to the Missions Committee after the trip. The applicant should be willing to share his / her experiences and observations with the church as and when required.

Section M

Mission Fields

43 Purpose

The Missions Committee will identify specific mission fields, so as to develop long-term opportunities for Wesleyans to be directly involved in evangelism, discipleship training and church-planting in other countries.

This involvement should include:

- a Personal involvement in ministry.
- b Regular mission trips.
- c Regular and specific prayer, and
- d Financial support.

44 Definition

The mission field may be:

- a A specific people group, and / or
- b People in a specific geographical location

In which Wesley Church's involvement may be used by God to extend His Kingdom amongst the people in the mission field.

45 Level of Financial Support

Up to \$7,000/- per project per annum for missions projects undertaken by an organisation in the field.

Section N

Missions Budget

46 Preparation

The annual budget is to be prepared and discussed by the Missions Committee in the second quarter of each calendar year. In determining the amount of church support from the General Fund, the Missions Committee will take account of the:

- a Specific needs and circumstances of each person and organisation.
- b Estimated amount of designated support for each person and organization.
- c Availability of funds and competing priorities of Wesley Church in the financial year ahead.

47 Approval

The budget will be submitted to the Finance Committee for the approval of the Local Conference.

Note: This Ninth Edition of the Missions Policy was approved and adopted by the Local Church Executive Committee of Wesley Methodist Church at its June 2010 meeting.



MISSIONS POLICY

**9th Edition
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