

## CHURCH PLANTER INQUIRY

Thank you for your interest in church planting with EFCA West. Please read through the chart below, explore our websites [www.efca.org](http://www.efca.org) and [www.efcawest.org](http://www.efcawest.org) and then answer the list of 10 questions that follows.

### Overview of Church Planting Expectations with EFCA West

Our Part	Your Part
<p><b>Identify Potential Planters</b> The EFCA has developed a comprehensive system for assessing potential church planters. Although God has equipped each of His servants for ministry, not everyone is gifted for church planting. Our goal is to identify those who have the best chance of success in church planting.</p>	<p>Complete, at your own expense, a battery of pre-assessment instruments (including the DiSC and MBTI) If the results of these instruments indicate that you are a good candidate for church planting, the assessment process is completed with a 4-hour long interview of you &amp; your spouse done by a trained assessment team. The assessment fee is \$250, but can be reduced if necessary.</p>
<p><b>Placement</b> EFCA West has identified many locations that are in need of new churches. We will work with you to determine if any of these locations are right for you.</p>	<p>Once you and EFCA West agree on a location, do the necessary demographic “homework” and begin recruiting those who will be a part of your church planting, support, and prayer teams. Develop a Personal Growth Plan.</p>
<p><b>Train Church Planting Teams</b> The EFCA has developed an intensive 5-day Church Planting BootCamp. This training, done by instructors with extensive church planting knowledge and experience, covers the major issues that every planter faces in starting a new church.</p>	<p>Complete BootCamp training. Financial assistance is available if the cost is prohibitive.  Write Church Planting Proposal</p>
<p><b>Coach/Mentor New Church Planters</b> The EFCA has a roster of trained church planting coaches and is regularly training new ones. Our goal is that no planter will be alone in the initial years of the church planting process.</p>	<p>Be coached by the person assigned to you. This involves monthly meetings with your coach for prayer &amp; encouragement, including submission of a monthly report to your coach and to the Church Planting Director.</p>
<p><b>Financial and Legal Status Assistance</b> EFCA West may have funds available to subsidize a portion of the church planting costs during the first 2 or 3 years, if needed. EFCA church plants are eligible for 501(c)(3) coverage and will receive assistance when setting up state incorporation.</p>	<p>Participate in the EFCA's Fair Share Program: Churches that are part of the EFCA family are expected to contribute 1% of their yearly budget to the national EFCA ministry, 1% of their yearly budget to EFCA West, and 1% of their yearly budget to EFCA West's church planting fund.</p>
<p><b>Accountability and Interdependence</b> The Evangelical Free Church of America is an association of some 1,300 autonomous U.S. churches united by a mutual commitment to serve our Lord Jesus Christ with the guidance of the Holy Spirit and obedience to the Word of God. <b>We are committed to cooperate with one another in ministry and fellowship as we seek to fulfill the Great Commission which Christ has entrusted to His Church.</b> The EFCA's international ministry currently extends to some 45 countries of the world.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Be credentialed (licensed/ordained) in the EFCA within the first year of the church plant assignment.</li> <li>2. Be intentional about educating your church members about what it means to be a part of the EFCA and take opportunities to participate in the various EFCA ministries.</li> <li>3. Participate in mutual support and encouragement with other EFCA pastors, especially other church planters.</li> <li>4. Support EFCA ministries with finances and prayer.</li> <li>5. Attend Regional and National Conferences.</li> </ol>

**INTERESTED IN CHURCH PLANTING WITH EFCA WEST? IF YES, PLEASE BRIEFLY ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:**

1. What excites you most about church planting? What do you believe sets church planting apart from other pastoral roles?
2. In addition to prayer, adequate finances, and a genuine desire to expand Christ's kingdom, what elements do you believe are necessary to successfully launch a new church?
3. What books or other material have you read about church planting? What is one significant thing you learned?
4. Why are you interested in planting with the EFCA? With EFCA West?
5. List all the businesses, ministries, or other endeavors you have started from scratch.
6. Church planting is a team effort. What do you believe are the essential characteristics of a team? What should a team do?
7. Describe a time when you helped someone as they experienced spiritual growth – moving from one stage of spiritual immaturity or maturity to the next level of maturity.
8. Describe any experiences you've had in helping others discover and utilize their spiritual giftedness and how you deployed them into appropriate gift-centered ministry.
9. Describe a time when you trained another ministry leader who was deployed to carry on part of the ministry and then he or she in turn trained and deployed someone else into a similar leadership position.
10. Describe a recent a time when you encountered what seemed to be an almost insurmountable obstacle to effective ministry. How did you keep going in spite of the odds?

**Your name:**

**Address/City/Zip:**

**Current church and denominational affiliation:**

**E-mail address:**

**Daytime telephone:**

Please e-mail this form with your responses to [info@efcawest.org](mailto:info@efcawest.org). Include:

- A resumé with references
- A letter from someone in church or ministry leadership affirming your call to church planting.

We'll contact you within 15 business days of the time we receive all of the above.

*For office use only:*

Date received: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed by CP Director: \_\_\_\_\_