

Endorsement Form

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Albuquerque, NM

The endorser of an application for membership in this branch church performs a vital function. Even though the applicant is interviewed by the Executive Board, we must rely on those who endorse the application to testify to the applicant's ability and desire to sustain himself or herself through Christian Science and to maintain the standards thereof. This procedure is intended to promote an understanding of the obligations of church membership, but not to exclude any qualified, sincere applicant.

Please take the opportunity to discuss the requirements for membership with the applicant before endorsing the application: this includes our church Bylaws (Article II) and the Tenets of The Mother Church. If this does not yield sufficient information to satisfy you of the applicant's qualifications you may wish to defer your endorsement until you become better acquainted with the applicant. If you are satisfied that the applicant meets the requirements for membership and you also meet the qualifications as an endorser, please sign this endorsement.

Applicant's Name _____

Qualifications of Endorser

Our church Bylaws specify that the endorser:

- Is a member of The Mother Church
- Is not on the Executive Board
- Is not related to the applicant or to the other endorser (Spouse, parent and offspring, siblings)

Questions for the Endorser

1. How long have you known the applicant? _____
2. Is the applicant a responsible person and aware of the commitment he or she is making in joining this church? Yes No; _____
3. Are you satisfied that the applicant is leading a moral life* and relying on Christian Science for spiritual progress? Yes No; _____
*See S&H 56:7-8, 15-3; 483:8-12.
4. Have you interviewed this applicant personally and discussed the requirements for membership on the back of this form with him or her? Yes No; _____
5. Has the applicant experienced healing in Christian Science? Yes No

I have discussed the requirements for membership with the applicant and to the best of my knowledge the applicant meets the requirements.

Signature of Endorser

Date

Requirements for Membership

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Our branch church bylaws state the following qualifications and requirements for membership:

- The applicant must “be a believer in the revealed truth of Christian Science as contained in the Christian Science textbook, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy” Article II, Section 1.A.1
- The applicant must “have studied the *Manual of The Mother Church* by Mary Baker Eddy, and these bylaws [bylaws of this branch church] and be willing to abide by the rules in both.” Article II, Section 1.A.2.

Our bylaws also state the following duties of Members:

- “It shall be the duty of the members of this church to own and study the *Manual of The Mother Church* by Mary Baker Eddy, accept its authority to govern the Christian Science movement, and endeavor to exemplify its teachings in their lives. In their study they shall adhere strictly to the provisions of Article IV, Section 1 of the *Manual of The Mother Church*.” Article II, Section 4.A.
- “Members are encouraged to lovingly accept the decisions of the majority, study and observe the bylaws of this church, actively participate in church work and support the church metaphysically, attend services and Membership Meetings when possible, and to financially support the church to the extent possible.” Article II, Section 4.B.
- “Members shall notify the Clerk of any change of address, phone number, or email address. They shall also inform the Clerk when joining the Mother Church or receiving Class Instruction. Article II, Section 4.C.