Church Affiliation Guidelines and Forms
Dear Friend,

Two thousand years ago Jesus made a promise, “I will build my church.” (Matthew 16:18)

The evidence that he is still keeping that promise is everywhere! In our own fellowship we especially see it in the marked increase of new church plants and the growth of multi-site initiatives – all for the sake of evangelizing unreached people in our nation.

At the heart of working together to start new congregations is the merging of divine strategy with thorough communication. This piece seeks to inform that process.

I trust that this guide to both the planting of new churches and the establishing of Parent Affiliated Churches (PACs) will be of practical, step by step help to you.

May the Lord bless you and may Christ’s church be built!

In Christ,

Jim Bradford
General Secretary
General Council of the Assemblies of God
Table of Contents

Parent Affiliated Church (PAC) Fact Sheet ....................................................... 1

What exactly is a PAC? ...................................................................................... 1
Is a PAC the same as a satellite? ................................................................. 1
Who files the charter to begin a PAC? ....................................................... 1
Can a PAC remain a PAC indefinitely? ...................................................... 1
Can a non-credentialed minister lead a PAC? ........................................... 1
What is the difference between a PAC and a traditional church plant? .... 1
If a PAC is started in another district, who is that PAC leader accountable to? ........................................................................................................... 2
Can a district affiliated church establish a PAC? ....................................... 2
Does an international PAC require a charter application by the sending district? ......................................................................................... 2
Can a PAC apply for CMN Matching Funds? ............................................. 3
What are the risks and wins for both sending and receiving districts? .... 3
What representation will PACs have in General Council business sessions? ... 3

When the PAC is located in a different district than the parent church, is it the parent church district which charters (i.e. “opens”) the PAC? .......... 3

When the PAC is located in a different district than the parent church, is it the parent church district with which the PAC becomes affiliated? .......... 3

Will any PACs located outside of the United States (and its territories) be allowed to charter? ................................................................................... 4

Will any PACs located outside of the United States (and its territories) be eligible for start-up funds? ..................................................................... 4

Will a non-AG-credentialed PAC Leader be added to our ministerial roster as a non-Council Pastor? ........................................................................ 4

© 2012 General Council of the Assemblies of God. All Rights Reserved.
Will an AG-credentialed PAC Leader (pastor) be required to hold credentials in the same district with which the PAC is affiliated? ........................................4

Will the official report of the AGTG (Assemblies of God Total Giving) credit roll up to the Parent Church? (Note: if not, per capita rates may decrease.) ..........4

Will the official report of ACMR (Annual Church Ministries Report) data roll up to the Parent Church? ........................................................................................................4

Diagnostic Questions for Districts and Church Planters ..............................5

Definitions .................................................................................................................................12

ARTICLE X. DISTRICT COUNCILS ....................................................................................12

Section 1. Membership ..........................................................................................................12

Section 2. Area of Supervision ............................................................................................12

CONSTITUTION ..................................................................................................................13

Section 3. Language Districts .............................................................................................13

Section 4. Credentialing Authority ......................................................................................13

Section 5. Areas of Authority ..............................................................................................13

Section 6. Relationship With the General Council .............................................................13

ARTICLE XI. LOCAL ASSEMBLIES ....................................................................................13

Section 1. General Council Affiliated Assemblies ...............................................................13

Section 2. District Council Affiliated Assemblies ...............................................................15

Section 3. Parent Affiliated Churches ..................................................................................15

Section 4. Cooperating Assemblies ....................................................................................15

Assemblies of God Parent Affiliated Churches ..................................................................15

Resource Links .....................................................................................................................17

PAC Charter Form ................................................................................................................18
Parent Affiliated Church (PAC) Fact Sheet

Goal: Clarity, not control. Comprehensive without complexity.

What exactly is a PAC?

Official definition: A Parent Affiliated Church (PAC) is an outreach of an existing General Council Affiliated Church or duly authorized District Council Affiliated Church resulting in a worshipping community with a congregational life distinct from a Parent Church (PC). A Parent Affiliated Church is subject to the ecclesial supervision and authority of a Parent Church, in such manner, and upon such terms and conditions, as are determined by a Parent Church.

Simple definition: A Parent Affiliated Church is a worshipping community started and governed by an existing congregation. This link will lead you to a sample Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) describing the relationship of a parent church to a PAC. [http://bit.ly/psuuwO](http://bit.ly/psuuwO)

Is a PAC the same as a satellite?

Yes. The terms are interchangeable. A satellite is more the pop culture way of referring to the same thing as PAC. Other popular names include site, venue, campus, location, etc.

Who files the charter to begin a PAC?

To charter a Parent Affiliated Church, the Parent Church submits a completed Parent Affiliated Church Charter form to the District office. PAC Charter Forms are available online at [http://bit.ly/q7OdeE](http://bit.ly/q7OdeE). The District acknowledges the opened PAC and forwards the Parent Affiliated Church Charter form to the National Office.

By definition, a PAC is an extension of an existing church. It is the responsibility of the Parent Church to complete the paperwork associated with chartering a PAC.

Can a PAC remain a PAC indefinitely?

Yes. There is no requirement for a PAC to become a sovereign local assembly unless the Parent Church desires to do so. The future of the PAC and its governance is entirely up to the Parent Church.

Can a non-credentialed minister lead a PAC?

Yes. A Parent Affiliated Church must have a designated leader (not necessarily the primary teacher) who is responsible for maintaining appropriate leadership structures and systems to maximize the organizational health of a Parent Affiliated Church.

What is the difference between a PAC and a traditional church plant?

• Different governance model.
• Different day-to-day management team and structure.
• Both have value.
• PAC model is best used by an existing missional thinking pastor who wants to plant churches beyond the parent congregation.
• Traditional church planting model is best used by an individual church planter without a parent church relationship.
• Both models are valid depending on the context.

**If a PAC is started in another district, who is that PAC leader accountable to?**

PAC congregations are under the supervision of their parent church (as designated on the PAC Charter Form, in accordance with the parent church’s constitution and bylaws.) The following guidelines will be helpful in managing the relationship between the sending and receiving districts.

• We recommend that the sending and receiving districts determine where the credentials will be held.

• We recommend that parent churches be encouraged to share and invest in both the sending and receiving districts.

• We recommend the sending district contact the receiving district to cultivate good communication and relationships.

• We recommend that provision be made to share the tithe with both districts (of credentialed PAC leaders).

• We recommend that church-planting credit be given to both the sending and receiving districts.

• We recommend that when disciplinary actions involving credential holders are required, the standard policies should be followed as spelled out in the bylaws.

**Can a district affiliated church establish a PAC?**

Yes, if the district policies allow. District Affiliated churches are governed by their district in accordance with district policies.

**Does an international PAC require a charter application by the sending district?**

Parent churches wishing to plant PACs outside the United States are encouraged to do so in cooperation with World Missions. The U.S. General Council is unable to recognize PACs planted in other nations.
Can a PAC apply for CMN Matching Funds?

Yes. It is important to note that while a PAC may be pastored by a non-credentialed leader, PAC start-ups desiring to apply for Matching Funds must be led by a leader holding AG credentials. Contact the CMN office at 417-862-2781 x3500 for more information.

What are the risks and wins for both sending and receiving districts?

1. Finances –
   b. Win - Provisions are being made to give missional credit to both districts. We recommend that both districts share any tithe income from the PAC leader.

2. Discipline –
   a. Risk - There is the potential for awkwardness and a lack of connection as well as slow response time due to geographical inability to get quickly to the person.
   b. Win - We recommend that the sending and receiving districts work together to overcome the risks.

3. Resources –
   a. Risk - Strain on district resources. PACs serving in a receiving district may desire to use the resources of the receiving district that are typically only available to churches affiliated with that district (for example - children and youth camps, conventions, etc.)
   b. Win - Cooperation is key. We recommend that districts work together to discover ways to offset the costs to the receiving district.
   c. 1. What representation will PACs have in district business sessions? Each district will determine this for itself.

What representation will PACs have in General Council business sessions?
None: only General Council affiliated churches send delegates.

When the PAC is located in a different district than the parent church, is it the parent church district which charters (i.e. “opens”) the PAC?
Yes: the parent church district will charter (i.e. “open”) the PAC.

When the PAC is located in a different district than the parent church, is it the parent church district with which the PAC becomes affiliated?
Yes, the parent church district is the one with which the PAC will affiliate; but the parent church district should interface with the district in which the PAC is located.
Will any PACs located outside of the United States (and its territories) be allowed to charter?
   No, there will not be any official chartering of non-U.S. PACs.

Will any PACs located outside of the United States (and its territories) be eligible for start-up funds?
   No.

Will a non-AG-credentialed PAC Leader be added to our ministerial roster as a non-Council Pastor?
   Yes.

Will an AG-credentialed PAC Leader (pastor) be required to hold credentials in the same district with which the PAC is affiliated?
   Generally the PAC Leader will be expected to retain credentials in the parent church district, but exceptions can be made upon agreement between the two districts involved.

Will the official report of the AGTG (Assemblies of God Total Giving) credit roll up to the Parent Church? (Note: if not, per capita rates may decrease.)
   Yes.

Will the official report of ACMR (Annual Church Ministries Report) data roll up to the Parent Church?
   Yes.
## Diagnostic Questions for Districts and Church Planters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnostic Questions</th>
<th>General Council Affiliated</th>
<th>District Council Affiliated</th>
<th>Parent Church Affiliated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mature Experienced Leader?</td>
<td>Self determined</td>
<td>Determined by District</td>
<td>Determined by PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leader AG Credentialed?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Determined by District</td>
<td>Determined by PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manage own finances?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Determined by District</td>
<td>Determined by PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self governing?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Determined by District</td>
<td>Determined by PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Video venue?</td>
<td>Self determined</td>
<td>Determined by District</td>
<td>Determined by PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May own/purchase property?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Determined by District</td>
<td>Determined by PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do they come under the General Council 501(c)3 umbrella?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May start PACs?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Determined by District</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Able to send delegates to District Council</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Determined by District</td>
<td>Determined by District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Able to send delegates to General Council?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has official membership?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Determined by District</td>
<td>Determined by PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future affiliation options?</td>
<td>Self determined</td>
<td>Determined by District</td>
<td>Determined by PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receive AG Total Giving credit?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Giving credit goes to PC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

© 2012 General Council of the Assemblies of God. All Rights Reserved.
**Recommended District Guidelines for Opening New Churches**

1. Districts should provide a way for planters, parent churches and/or sections to express their intent to start a new church.
   
a. The methodology for indicating intent should be widely published and easily accessible.

b. It may be in the form of an application or online communication tool.

c. Many districts have found it valuable to have a designated person serve as the initial contact for proposed planting projects.

d. In spite of our best efforts to encourage proactive communication from planters and parent churches about their intent to begin a new work, missional enthusiasm and entrepreneurial impulse will inevitably mean that some planting projects will gain momentum before the district is notified.

   i. In such cases, districts are encouraged to assume the best intentions unless there is strong evidence to the contrary.

   ii. Leaders acting in an unethical manner should be managed appropriately.

2. Once the district leadership is aware of the intent to start a new church, a relationally robust process should be utilized to assist the planting team in determining the timing and placement of the new work.

a. District roles may include:

   i. Providing a planter/parent church with a standardized process for obtaining timely district affirmation of the proposed planting project. General Council Bylaws Article VI, Section 6 indicates that a district may not prohibit the starting of a new church unless a compelling reason exists.

   ii. Assist the planter/parent church in determining the appropriate affiliation status for the new church. Use the attached Affiliation Diagnostic Grid as a guidance tool.

   iii. As soon as the new church is affirmed, districts should complete and send in a New Church Opened Form to the Office of the General Secretary.

      1. In the case of a new District Affiliated Church, the district should complete and send in the New Church Opened Form.
2. In the case of a Parent Affiliated Church, the Parent Affiliated Charter Form may originate with the Parent Church.

   a. Upon the receipt of a Parent Affiliated Charter Form, the district should

      i. Record the PAC information into the official district records.

      ii. Respond in a timely manner to the Parent Church, indicating receipt of the Charter Form and evaluating how they might best facilitate the success of the new PAC.

      iii. When a Charter Form indicates that the new PAC will be geographically located in a different district, the “sending” district should inform the “receiving” district in a timely manner. District leaders should assist the Parent Church leaders with establishing and maintaining healthy relationships with both districts.

3. In the case of an existing church being re-classified as a PAC, a district should follow procedures already used to transition District Affiliated churches to General Council Status or visa-versa.

   a. However, if the existing church is no longer viable and it is the intention of the district to close the existing church and re-assign the assets to start a new District or Parent Affiliated Church, a Closed Church Form should be completed and filed with the General Secretary’s Office.

      i. When this occurs, the resulting new church will be ineligible to apply for AG Trust/CMN Matching Funds for a period of 9 months from the date of the filing of the Church Closed Form.

      iv. Facilitating favorable relational connections with local presbyters, church and community leaders in the target location.

      v. Assisting the planter and/or parent church with access to planter and parent assessment tools.

      vi. Giving the planter/parent church leadership access to a coach or coaches.

      vii. Assisting the planter/parent church to obtain start up funding.
4. Some districts provide designated accounts in the district fund account to provide a place for donors to give financial support toward specific plants.

5. Many districts work cooperatively with the AG Trust/Church Multiplication Network Perpetual Matching Fund to increase the fund raising capacity of planters and facilitate good stewardship of funds raised.

viii. Assisting the planter/parent church with counsel on legal matters including but not limited to the following organizational elements:


7. Assistance with filing Articles of Incorporation with the state.

8. Information about how to obtain and use a tax-exempt certificate.

9. Instructions regarding how to properly set up a bank account.

10. Advice regarding setting up a Workman’s Compensation Account.

11. Inform them of procedures for obtaining property and liability insurance.

12. Help them apply for appropriate copyright license(s) if they plan to use projected or printed copyrighted materials.

13. Instructions on how to adopt a Children’s and Youth Risk Management Policy.


15. Assist the new work with the creation of an appropriate governance structure that balances freedom and accountability well.

ix. In the case of Parent Affiliated Churches, most if not all of the legal issues will already be covered under the legal status of the Parent Church. However, the district can provide crucial assistance to the Parent Church by providing assistance in setting up a Memorandum of Understanding document (a sample MOU is available) to define the relationship and clarify expectations and assumptions between the Parent and Parent Affiliated Church leadership.

b. Reasonable expectations of a planter/parent church include:
i. Consistent and clear communication with district leadership.

ii. Demonstrating respect for and cooperation with leaders of other churches sharing a common geography with the new work.

iii. Practicing solid ethical behavior in all matters and toward all persons and institutions they interact with.

iv. Cooperation with district policies and procedures.

v. A missional focus and reason for planting.

3. Districts should work to ensure that their approval/permission giving processes are structured to maximize the emergence of healthy churches and minimize unnecessary bureaucratic “hoops.” Here is a sample approval process:

   a. Step One- It is recommended that every district designate a “go to” leader empowered to be a contact person, mentor and advocate for aspiring planters/parent churches.

   b. Step Two- Planter/parent church connects with “go to” leader and indicates intention to start a new work.

   c. Step Three- district facilitates a meeting with local leaders in the geographic context of the proposed plant. The purpose of the meeting is for the planter/parent church to receive input and feedback from local leaders regarding how the new work can best complement the ministries already present in the community.

   d. Step Four- district/parent church affirms the call to plant the new church.

   e. Step Five- district/parent church assists the planter/parent church in accessing planter assessment services, finding a coach, formulating a funding strategy, laying a solid legal foundation, etc.

   f. Step Six- district/parent church assists the planter/parent church to attend equipping events like BootCamps and model specific training seminars as well as helping the planter to follow through on the sample checklist provided with this document.
Sample Checklist for Potential Planters and Parent Affiliated Church (PAC) Leaders

1. Seek the Lord for guidance regarding where and for whom a new church plant or PAC should be started.

2. Seek confirmation from other leadership. We hear from God in community. (Proverbs 11:14 - “Where no counsel is, the people fall, but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.”) Take full advantage of the wisdom God has placed around you. Do not make a final commitment to planting until you have completed the following action steps.
   a. Connect with the district, pastors and ministries who currently serve the target community to which you are called. Solicit their input and affirmation regarding the timing, strategy and placement of the new church plant or PAC. This is even more important if the new church is a PAC in a different district than that of the parent church.
   b. Make direct contact with the leadership of the district to ensure that you are aware of district resources and processes available to provide a solid foundation for the new work. If the new church will be District Affiliated, be sure to obtain the blessing of the district as early in the process as possible.
   c. Go through an assessment process. The purpose of assessment is to help you discover your readiness for planting. You will also gain insights into the strengths and weaknesses you bring to the planting process. Your district or parent church may be able to help you find a qualified assessor. If not, Church Multiplication Network can connect you with an effective assessment experience.
   d. Contact Church Multiplication Network at 417.862.2781 or visit us at churchmultiplication.net to obtain the most up to date information regarding Network resources.

3. Begin to recruit your prayer support network and develop a clear, sustainable strategy for communicating with them.

4. Find a coach and begin meeting with your coach at least on a monthly basis and ideally on a weekly basis.
   a. Your district or parent church may be able to help you find a coach.
   b. If not, contact CMN and we will help you get connected to a coach.
5. Get informed.

a. Attend a CMN BootCamp early in your start up process. BootCamp will help you discover the best model for planting a church or starting a site in the context to which you are called. You will also come away from the BootCamp with a clear set of action steps you can follow to successfully launch the new church.

b. Once you have discovered the best model for your context, attend training events presented by experienced practitioners of the model. Your CMN BootCamp facilitators can help you determine the best training opportunities for the model you have selected.

c. Read church planting books and visit church planting Web sites. We recommend Viral Churches by Ed Stetzer and Launch by Nelson Searcy. churchmultiplication.net and churchplantingvillage.org are great web resource sites for planters.

d. Talk to other planters who are at different phases of planting. CMN can help you find planters to connect with. Also, visit the Church Planting Channel on AGTV to view stories and interviews with planters from all over the U.S.

6. Develop a financial plan and build a financial foundation for your plant.

a. Determine if you will use CMN Matching Funds or another matching program to help you raise start up funding. Keep in mind that CMN Matching Funds are available before your public launch. We recommend that you start the application process at least four months before you plan to launch publicly. This will give us time to process your application.

b. Connect with your district or parent church to set up your accounting systems so your church can begin receiving and receipting donations.

7. Gather a committed launch team around you and begin making disciples in the community to which you are called.

a. Recruit launch team members who complement your strengths and weaknesses.

b. Look for launch team members with a strong commitment to and experience in making disciples. It’s much easier to start out as a disciple making church than to try to retrofit an established church to begin making disciples.

© 2012 General Council of the Assemblies of God. All Rights Reserved.
8. Be sure to recruit someone who is knowledgeable of legal matters. Consult with your district or parent church to determine if you need to take the following actions:

   a. Apply for an Employee Identification Number.
   b. File Articles of Incorporation with your state.
   c. Obtain and use a tax-exempt certificate.
   d. Set up a bank account.
   e. Set up a Workman’s Compensation Account.
   f. Obtain property and liability insurance.
   g. Apply for appropriate copyright license(s) if you plan to use projected or printed copyrighted materials.
   h. Adopt a Children’s and Youth Risk Management Policy.

9. Consult with your district or parent church to determine how your church will make decisions and be governed. If the church is a PAC, utilize the sample Memorandum of Understanding to help you have a clarifying conversation with your parent church to minimize confusion or incorrect expectations.

10. Keep your district or parent church fully informed of your plans for preview services and your launch date.

**Definitions**

The following definitions are directly from the General Council constitution and by-laws.

**ARTICLE X. DISTRICT COUNCILS**

**Section 1. Membership**
Membership of each district council shall be determined by the district’s constitution and bylaws.

**Section 2. Area of Supervision**
The district council shall have supervision over all the ecclesial and sacerdotal activities of the Assemblies of God in its prescribed field, except as provided for in the General Council Constitution and Bylaws or in cooperative agreements between the General Council and the district council.
CONSTITUTION

Section 3. Language Districts
A language group may be recognized as a district of the Assemblies of God in accordance with the provision for district councils in the Bylaws. The territory of such a district is confined to ministry among certain language groups, and its geographical area of operation may therefore overlap or coincide with that of one or more other district councils. (See Bylaws, Article V, Section 6.)

Section 4. Credentialing Authority
The district council shall have the authority to examine the present candidates who qualify as certified ministers, licensed ministers, or ordained ministers in accordance with Article VII of the Bylaws. The applications of such candidates shall be forwarded to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God for presentation to the General Council Credentials Committee for final review and issuance of the ministerial credential if the qualifications prescribed by Article VII of the Bylaws are satisfied. Any level of formal academic achievement (diploma or degree) shall not be a requirement for credentials, but it shall be required of applicants that they take such courses and pass examinations as shall be prescribed by the General Presbytery unless an exception is provided for in the Bylaws.

Section 5. Areas of Authority
The district council shall elect its own officers and arrange for its own meetings.

Section 6. Relationship With the General Council
The district council shall not violate the Constitution or Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. In the prosecution of its work the district council shall keep vigilant watch against any violation of the principles of spiritual unity and cooperative fellowship to which the Assemblies of God Fellowship is unalterably dedicated. It shall be amenable to The General Council of the Assemblies of God in matters of doctrine and the discipline of ministers.

ARTICLE XI. LOCAL ASSEMBLIES

Section 1. General Council Affiliated Assemblies
A General Council affiliated assembly is one that has applied for and has received a Certificate of Affiliation from The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

a. Requirements for affiliation. Churches desiring to be affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall meet the following requirements. They shall:
   (1) Accept the tenets of faith of the Assemblies of God;
(2) Adopt a standard of membership that may be determined either by the local assembly or by agreement with the district council;

(3) Have a minimum active voting membership of 20 persons who shall accept responsibility to maintain scriptural order in the local body;

(4) Adopt Articles of Incorporation, a constitution or bylaws compatible with models recommended by the district council, or district approved governance models that provide for adequate accountability, amenability, and safeguards so that a pastor and/or governing body cannot directly or indirectly exert dictatorial control over a church;

(5) Have an adequate number of spiritually qualified members to fill the offices of the church called for in its constitution or bylaws; and

(6) Make provision for a pastor who is a credentialed minister in good standing with the General Council and a district council.

b. Relationship to and support of the General Council and district councils. A General Council affiliated assembly should cooperate in the work and support the programs of the General Council and district councils and may send delegates to the General Council and district councils.

c. Right of self-government (sovereign rights). Each General Council affiliated assembly has the right of self-government under Jesus Christ, its living Head, and shall have the power to choose or call its pastor, elect its official board, and transact all other business pertaining to its life as a local unit. It shall have the right to administer discipline to its members according to the Scriptures and its constitution or bylaws. It shall have the right to acquire and hold title to property, either through trustees or in its corporate name as a self-governing unit. The fact it is affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall in no way destroy its rights as above stated or interfere with its sovereignty. The governance model adopted by the local assembly shall conform to the guidelines of Constitution, Article XI, Section 1, paragraph a, subparagraph (4).

d. Subordinate in matters of doctrine and conduct. A General Council affiliated assembly shall recognize that a district council or The General Council of the Assemblies of God has the right to approve scriptural doctrine and conduct and to disapprove unscriptural doctrine and conduct and the authority to withdraw its Certificate of Affiliation if deemed necessary. (See Article VI, Section 4, of the Bylaws.)
Right of appeal. When in need of counsel or advice, the General Council affiliated assembly may appeal to the district officers for help. It may appeal from a decision by the district officers to the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God when there is a question whether or not the assembly has received proper help from the district. When exceptions are taken to the decisions of the Executive Presbytery, either by the General Council affiliated assembly or by the district presbytery, appeal may be made to the General Presbytery.

Section 2. District Council Affiliated Assemblies
Provision shall be made by the district councils for district council affiliated assemblies which shall be under the supervision of the district council, in accordance with the provisions of the district council constitution and bylaws. These assemblies shall be encouraged to proceed to the status of sovereign General Council affiliated assemblies.

Section 3. Parent Affiliated Churches
Provision shall be made by district councils for parent affiliated assemblies which shall be under the supervision of a parenting church, in accordance with the parenting church’s constitution and bylaws.

Section 4. Cooperating Assemblies
Provision may be made by district councils and the General Council Executive Presbytery for the status of a cooperating assembly, which would allow churches that subscribe to Article V. Statement of Fundamental Truths of the General Council Constitution to enter into a cooperative status with a district and the General Council on a temporary basis (4-year term, renewable by the request of the local church congregation at the discretion of the district council in cooperation with the General Council Executive Presbytery) before officially affiliating with the district council and the General Council.

Assemblies of God Parent Affiliated Churches
A Parent Affiliated Church (PAC) may exist when the following organizational characteristics can be observed:

1. **A Parent Affiliated Church** is a worshipping community started by an existing congregation to reach “unchurched” and “dechurched” peoples within the United States. Unchurched refers to those individuals who have never been affiliated with an existing Christian church. Dechurched refers to those individuals who have previously been a part of a Christian church but
are not currently fellowshipping with an existing congregation. An existing district affiliated church may be chartered as a Parent Affiliated Church at the request of the district. An existing self-governing church may also elect to enter into a Parent Affiliated Church agreement with a General Council church or duly authorized district council church.

2. **Purpose:** The purpose of a Parent Affiliated Church is specifically directed toward individuals who are restricted by language, social group, geography or other reasons from meaningful participation in the existing congregation.

3. **Organization:** An officially recognized Parent Affiliated Church may be related to a Parent Church (PC) in any combination of connections including: financial, relational, governmental, etc. It is understood that by definition, a Parent Affiliated Church is subject to the ecclesial supervision and authority of a Parent Church, in such manner, and upon such terms and conditions, as are determined by a Parent Church.

4. **Leadership:** A Parent Affiliated Church must have a designated leader (not necessarily the primary teacher) who is responsible for maintaining appropriate leadership structures and systems to maximize the organizational health of a Parent Affiliated Church.

5. **Process:** For a Parent Affiliated Church to be officially “chartered,” a completed Parent Affiliated Church Charter form must be submitted by a Parent Church to its District to be signed off on by the District Secretary. The District will then submit a Parent Affiliated Church Charter form to the National Office.

6. **A Parent Affiliated Church is not** an overflow service intended to create more seating room in the same location as the main worship service of an existing church. It is not simply a different worship style to create worship options for members of the existing congregation.

The General Secretary of the General Council reserves the right to determine if a particular organizational arrangement qualifies as an officially chartered Parent Affiliated Church.
Resource Links

Sample Bylaws

• http://bit.ly/ritpHP
• http://bit.ly/qMQLYu

Church Bylaws Essentials

• http://bit.ly/n50UJ2

Additional PAC Resources

• Information Packet http://bit.ly/pJEBNk
• Sample Parent/PAC Memorandum of Understanding http://bit.ly/nTVtps
• PAC Charter http://bit.ly/mOWX7b
• PAC Fact Sheet http://bit.ly/q21a8r
• CMN Web Site http://churchmultiplication.net/#/resources/parent-affiliated-pac
## PAC Charter Form

**The General Council of the Assemblies of God**  
**Parent Affiliated Church (PAC) Charter**

*Fill in the form electronically (TAB from field to field) and print it. Or print a hardcopy to be completed.*

Check one:  
☐ New PAC  ☐ Change from District Council affiliated to PAC  ☐ Change from General Council affiliated to PAC

This PAC named below has the General Council account # ____________

### Questions 1 – 14 pertain to the PARENT Church.

1. District of Parent Church  
2. Parent Church Account #
3. Parent Church Affiliation  ☐ General Council  ☐ District  
4. Section ____________
5. Name of Parent Church __________________________
6. Parent Church Location Address __________________________
7. Parent Church Mailing Address __________________________
8. Parent Church Phone # __________________________
9. Parent Church Email __________________________
10. Parent Church Lead Pastor __________________________
11. Lead Pastor’s Account # __________________________
12. Lead Pastor’s type of Assemblies of God Credential:  
   ☐ Ordained  ☐ Licensed  ☐ Certified  ☐ No AG Credential
13. Lead Pastor’s Address __________________________
14. Lead Pastor’s Email __________________________

### Questions 15 – 29 pertain to the PAC.

15. Name of PAC (Parent Affiliated Church) __________________________
16. PAC Location Address __________________________
   (Street)  
   (City, State, Zip Code)
17. PAC Mailing Address __________________________  
   (Street/PO Box)  
   (City, State, Zip Code)
18. PAC Phone # __________________________
19. PAC Email __________________________
20. Federal EIN of PAC __________________________
   (if not covered under Parent EIN)

21. County __________________________

22. Environ:  check ONE box indicating the community in which the PAC is located.  
   ☐ CN – open country side  
   ☐ VG – village (less than 1,000)  
   ☐ TW – town (1,000-4,999)  
   ☐ SC – small city (5,000-9,999)  
   ☐ MC – medium city (10,000-49,000)  

   ☐ DT – downtown (in the central business district)  
   ☐ NB – neighborhood (within city limits but not downtown)  
   ☐ SU – suburban (in the same county as a central city of  
   50,000+ but not in the city limits)

23. Ethnicity:  the majority (51% or more) of the congregation is (Anglo, Hispanic, Chinese, etc.) __________________________

24. PAC Leader (optional) __________________________
25. Leader’s Account # __________________________

26. Leader’s type of Assemblies of God credential:  
   ☐ Ordained  ☐ Licensed  ☐ Certified  ☐ No AG Credential

27. Leader’s Address __________________________
   (Street/PO Box)  
   (City, State, Zip Code)

28. Leader’s Email __________________________

29. By whose initiative was this PAC started? __________________________

Signature of PARENT Church’s Lead Pastor __________________________  
(required)  
Date __________________________

The __________________________ District recognizes this Parent Affiliated Church __________________________  
(required)  
Date __________________________

Signature of District Superintendent or Secretary  
(required)  
Date __________________________

District office: Please sign and send to the General Secretary’s Office.