

Welcome!!!

We are so excited about your interest in becoming a partner church in the Pensacola Bay Baptist Association. We are unceasingly striving to network together to bring God's Word to bear upon the mission field of Escambia County...and beyond. This packet is the first step in your church connecting to this missional partnership of Southern Baptist Churches we have embraced for over 135 years. Enclosed you will find a form to complete, documents to read, and guidance for additional information to submit in your application process. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact our office, and we will be happy to assist.

Helping the Church BE the Church,

Jon Huff
Executive Director

Check-list

- ☒ Complete and submit a signed "Membership Application" form.
- ☒ Attach a petition letter for Association membership (see example in packet).
- ☒ Attach a description of your church's structure and the various practices of your church.
- ☒ Attach your church's statement of faith if different from or in addition to Baptist Faith and Message 2000
- ☒ **Note: if you are a church plant seeking partnership with the PBBA, contact the PBBA Office for additional guidance.

Your completed application packet can be dropped off at the PBBA office, 9999 Chemstrand Road, or emailed, office@pbbassociation.org. Once received and reviewed, our Executive Director or member of our Administration team will contact you. If you have any questions, please feel to contact the Pensacola Bay Baptist Association, (850) 471-3430.



Membership Application

Application For: (check one)

- Membership as New Church (Church Plant)
- Member as Existing Church

- Church plant: Date church plant began: ____/____/____

Name of Sponsor/Sending Church: _____

-or-

- Church: Date church constituted: ____/____/____

General Information

Name of Church: _____

Meeting Address: (street address) _____ (city) _____ (zip) _____

Mailing Address: (street/P.O. Box) _____ (city) _____ (zip) _____

Church Phone: _____ Church Website: _____

Church Contact's (secretary, etc.) Email: _____

Name of Pastor: _____ Pastor DoB: _____

Pastor is Part-time full-time at church. If bi-vocational, employer's name: _____

Home Address: (street address) _____ (city) _____ (zip) _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Pastor's Email: _____ Spouse Name: _____

Ethnic makeup of church: _____

Languages (spoken in the homes of church members): _____

Statement of Faith is best summarized by:

- Baptist Faith and Message (_____ edition)
- Our written statement (attached)

Affiliated with (an association, convention or denomination): yes no

- Florida Baptist Convention
- Southern Baptist Convention

Other(s): _____

Our church understands

The responsibilities and privileges of membership in the Pensacola Bay Baptist Association is committed to working in harmony with other member churches. We understand cooperation in this Association involves participation in the ministry of the Association, involvement in the work of the Executive Committee, completion of the Annual Church Profile, and the giving of regular financial contributions (\$250/year min.) to the work of the Association. We further understand that we will be in, and fully remain in, doctrinal harmony and in full support of the Pensacola Bay Baptist Association By-laws. The signatories below have been authorized by the congregation according to appropriate procedures in the church's By-laws to pursue and engage the church in membership with the Pensacola Bay Baptist Association.

Pastor's Signature/ Date

Congregation Representative Signature/ Title/ Date

PBBA Documents Concerning Member

Charter – Article III: Membership

Each of the following Baptist churches (here were listed the churches then affiliated) shall be entitled to representation and membership in this Association by their pastors and messengers.

Each church shall be entitled to three messengers, with one additional messenger for each 100 members or fraction thereof after the first 100 members; but no church shall have more than 10 messengers.

Other Baptist churches shall be Administrative Team and a favorable majority vote at any annual meeting of the Association.

The messengers from the respective churches shall be elected annually by the churches from their membership and seated at the annual meeting of the Association. All messengers are to be certified to the Association by their inclusion of their names in the Church letter.

Churches shall (1) make annual reports to the Association on the letter form provided by the Association. (2) Any churches failing for three consecutive years to make such reports or failing to give a minimum annual gift of \$250 shall be dropped from the roll thereof, provided the Executive Committee shall have communicated with the church each year relative to its failure in reporting and giving.

Constitution and Bylaws – Article 1 Bylaws -ARTICLE I: Procedure for Admission of Church

Section 1 - Admission of Churches: Each church seeking admittance to the Association shall send its petition to the Administrative Team

Section 2 - After receiving the petition, the Administrative Team will examine the structure, practices, and doctrine of the Church. The Administrative Team will present and discuss the relationship expectations between the Church and the Association.

Section 3 - On the basis of the information thus gained, the Team shall make its recommendations to the Executive Committee with regard to the admission of the Church.

Section 4 - Upon acceptance of the recommendation by the Executive Committee, the petitioning Church shall be accepted on a Watchcare basis for a period of twelve months from the date of action by the Executive Committee. The church shall have full voting rights during the Watchcare period. The Administrative Team shall continue to work with the petitioning Church during this twelve-month Watchcare period to evaluate the Church's cooperation with the Association. If during this Watchcare period the Church cooperates with the Association in work and spirit, the Administrative Team may recommend that the Church be admitted as a fully participating Church.

Section 5 - A new Church Plant sponsored by a Pensacola Bay Baptist Association church may be accepted into full membership immediately upon making a petition; provided such is recommended by the Sponsor Church and upon favorable vote of the Executive Committee or Annual Session.



Membership Application

Sample Petition of Associational Membership

<Date>

<Your Church Name>

<Your Church Address>

Sample Letter to apply for membership in the Pensacola Bay Baptist Association

Jon Huff, Executive Director
Pensacola Bay Baptist Association
9999 Chemstrand Road
Pensacola, FL 32514

Dear PBBA,

On <Date> our church voted to join the Pensacola Bay Baptist Association. We are a Baptist Church that desires fellowship with our sister churches in this area. Our church has adopted the <statement of faith or doctrines attached> as an expression of our doctrines. You will find a copy of this statement enclosed with this letter. We understand that membership in the association includes:

1. Participation in Association events such as the annual meeting;
2. Annual contribution to the association (min. \$250); and
3. Annual completion of the Annual Church Profile each year (a report of church statistics).
4. Additionally, we pledge to pray for the PBBA and its member churches.

The Church understands that membership will be voted on at the PBBA Annual Meeting. In the Spirit of Christian brotherhood, we are willing to be a part of the Pensacola Bay Baptist Association.

Sincerely,

_____ (Church Leaders)