

Outline for First Interview with Academic Advisor, Student, and Pastoral Supervisor

1. Welcome the Pastoral Supervisor and the student and share your own sense of encouragement and expectation about the value of this process. Explain the *Ministerial Studies Diploma* and stress that it assumes that the central responsibility for training is through the pastors of the local church. *Give the Pastoral Supervisor a copy of the Course Instruction Plan.* (Note--Remind the student to take notes on everything the Pastoral Supervisor shares since they are to take it into account in creating their ministry plan).
2. Ask the student to share briefly how they would define what their long-term goals in ministry are and what types of training they feel they need to achieve those goals.
3. Ask the *Pastoral Supervisor* whether they have any comment on the student's *Philosophy of Ministry Paper*. After these comments have been shared and discussed, ask the supervisor to define what kind of leadership roles they envision for the student and what kind of ministries they would like to see them involved in.
4. Ask the student and the pastoral supervisor to reflect on the spiritual gifts they believe the student exercises in the church.
5. Ask the student to talk about the types of supervised ministry that would like to be involved in and what that might look like.
6. Ask the *Pastoral Supervisor* to talk about the type of ministry assignments they could put the student in that would benefit both the student and the church. (Give the *Pastoral Supervisor* a copy of the supervisory styles handout sheet and suggest that they use it as a resource when talking to the student about the way the ministry assignment will be supervised. Stress that the form their supervision takes is entirely up to them and that the sheet is only for the purpose of stimulating ideas).
7. Ask how the *Pastoral Supervisor* whether there are any ways they would recommend for the student to master their denominational or congregational distinctives.
8. End the meeting with the following instructions and reminders:
 - a. The next step for the student is to complete the ministry plan. Set a suggested target date for completion. Emphasize to the student that they will have to meet and talk with the pastoral supervisor as this is being prepared in order to finalize the assignment details.
 - b. Set a tentative date for the second meeting. Remind the student that copies of the ministry plan will need to be sent to the Academic Advisor and Pastoral Supervisor before the next meeting.
 - c. Remind the student that they will need to turn in their *Reading Papers* and their *Defense of the Nicene Creed Paper* at your next meeting.
 - d. Ask the student and the supervisor whether they have any further questions.
 - e. Close by praying for the student and the pastoral supervisor.