



**Meadville Lombard**  
Theological School

**Office of Admissions/Recruitment**  
5701 S. Woodlawn Avenue | Chicago, IL 60637  
773.256.3000 x237 | Fax: 773.256.3007

## APPLICATION FORM FOR DEGREE CANDIDATES

### INSTRUCTIONS

#### PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

Checklist for a completed application:

1. This form completed and ***signed***.
2. Your personal reflection, attached to this form (see Section VII of this application).
3. Application Fee attached to this application in the form of a personal check or receipt for payment online.
4. Letters of reference and attached Recommendation Form mailed directly to Meadville Lombard from the recommender (see Section VII of this application).
5. Official transcripts received directly from post-secondary academic institutions noted below (see Section III of this application).

Mail the completed, signed application form, application fee and personal statement to:

**Meadville Lombard Theological School**  
Attention: Admissions Office  
5701 S. Woodlawn | Chicago, IL 60637  
773.256.3000 x237 | Fax: 773.256.3007

**Application Deadlines:** All applications are reviewed in the order in which they are completed.

**MDiv and MDiv/MALS degree programs:** Applicants who plan to apply for institutional financial aid (scholarship) must submit a completed admissions application **on or before March 15**. Applicants must submit a completed application **on or before June 1** in order to matriculate into these programs in the Fall.

**MAR and DMin degree programs:** Meadville Lombard allows rolling admissions for these degree programs.

### I. DEGREE PROGRAM

To which program are you applying (choose only one):

- Master of Divinity (MDiv)     Master of Arts in Religion (MAR)     Doctor of Ministry (DMin)  
 Master of Divinity/Master of Arts in Leadership Studies Dual degree (MDiv/MALS)  
 Master of Arts in Leadership Studies Dual degree (MALS)

What is your anticipated enrollment status (choose one):

- Full time     Part time

Anticipated enrollment date: Fall 20\_\_\_\_

## II. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Applicant's last (family) name:

First (given) name:

Former name:

Dates used:

Date of Birth (month/day/year):

Country of Citizenship:

Country of Birth:

Social Security Number:

If you are not a U.S. citizen, what is your immigration status/visa type?

**Note:** Individuals with an Alien Registration Card ("green card") from the US Department of Homeland Security must use this domestic application and provide a photocopy of the card to the Admissions Office. If admitted, students must present the original Alien Registration Card to the Admissions Office in person prior to matriculation.

Are you a veteran of or currently serving in the United States armed forces?  yes  no

**CONTACT INFORMATION** (please check box to indicate preferred contact method):

CURRENT ADDRESS (Number & Street, City, State, Postal Code, Country):

Evening Telephone (including area code):

Daytime Telephone (including area code):

Cell phone (including area code):

Email:

**PERMANENT ADDRESS:** (Number & Street, City, State, Postal Code, Country) (if different from above):

Telephone (including area code):

### III. ACADEMIC RECORD

For admission to our degree programs, Meadville Lombard requires a baccalaureate degree from an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the Commission on Higher Education Accreditation or holding membership in the Association of Universities and Colleges in Canada, or the documented, educational equivalent of the baccalaureate degree from courses taken at an accredited institution.

For all colleges, universities and graduate schools attended, please list: dates attended, name and location, degree, date degree received or expected (if any). Official transcripts of university-level school work (both undergraduate and graduate) are required. Transcripts must come to the Admissions Office directly from the issuing institution: student-issued copies are not acceptable.

Dates Attended	Name and Location of School	Degree and Year Received/ Expected	Transcript Requested

Are you currently attending another theological school?  yes  no School name:

Have you previously applied for admission to Meadville Lombard?  yes  no  
 If yes, for what program did you apply? Date applied:

Have you previously enrolled at Meadville Lombard?  yes  no  
 If yes, please list dates attended and degree earned (if any):

### IV. WORK EXPERIENCE

Please list present position first. If you wish, you may attach a separate sheet of paper **or current resume** detailing your employment experience. Please include dates of employment, title, institution, location, and nature of work. If listing part-time work, please indicate average hours per week.

Dates of Employment	Title/Institution	Nature of Work	Average hours/week

**V. VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE (include congregational volunteer work)**

List in chronological order from most recent, any volunteer positions that are pertinent to your decision to apply to our degree program **or attach a resume to this application.**

Dates of Service	Position	Name of Organization/Institution

**VI. DENOMINATIONAL AND CHURCH MEMBERSHIP**

Name of Church:

Denomination:

Are you currently attending this church?  yes  no  
How long have you been a member or attending this church?

Church Address:

Name of Minister:

Is your minister a graduate of Meadville Lombard?  yes  no

Describe any service you have done for a church, denomination or religious agency, including the nature of the work, length of service and whether it was volunteer or paid work:

## VII. PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

Provide essays as specified for the degree program to which you are applying.

**Preferred format:** typed, 12pt font (Times New Roman or equivalent), double-spaced, and 1" page margins.

**Master of Divinity (MDiv) applicants and Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Leadership Studies (MDiv/MALS) Dual Degree Program Applicants:** Write a 6 to 8 page personal essay that addresses the following questions:

- Reflect on various influences that have been important in your religious, personal and intellectual development:
  - What are your deepest religious questions?
  - What is your current sense of your own strengths and growing edges for ministry?
- A statement of your academic and professional objectives in applying to Meadville Lombard with specific reference to your proposed degree program and career objectives:
  - Why are you applying to Meadville Lombard?
  - What kinds of challenges or gifts are you anticipating in pursuing an MDiv or MDiv/MALS degree?

**Master of Arts in Religion (MAR) applicants:** Write a 4 to 6 page essay that addresses the following:

- Tell us of your interest in this MAR degree program and of your academic and/or professional objectives. You may include a brief reflection on the various influences that have been important in your religious, personal, and intellectual development.

**Doctor of Ministry (DMin) applicants:** Write a 6 to 8 page personal essay that addresses the following:

- A reflection on various influences that have been important to your religious, personal, and intellectual development;
- A statement of your academic and professional objectives in applying to the Doctor of Ministry degree program; and
- A detailed description of your proposed area of study and Doctor of Ministry project or thesis interests.

## VIII. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please complete a separate Recommendation Form for each person you will ask to complete a letter of reference for you. Different degree programs have different recommendation requirements so be sure to check the needs of your degree program before sending the forms. It is customary to provide your recommenders with an addressed, stamped envelope so that they may mail the letter directly. Check the appropriate box with regard to waiving your rights and sign the form before sending it to the recommender.

**Master of Divinity (MDiv), Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Leadership Studies (MDiv/MALS) Dual Degree, and MALS degree Applicants:** Please submit no fewer than four (4) letters of reference according to the following guidelines:

1. A Unitarian Universalist minister or, if you are not UU, a minister from your denomination who is familiar with your work in the church.
2. A reference from an academic professional who can attest to your ability to complete graduate-level work.
3. A lay person who is familiar with your work in the church or community.
4. Another person of your choice (not related to you).

**Master of Arts in Religion (MAR) Applicants:** Please submit no fewer than four (4) letters of reference according to the following guidelines:

1. A reference from an academic professional who can attest to your ability to complete graduate-level work.
2. A reference from a professional, preferably ordained, minister or other church leaders who is familiar with your work in the church.
3. Letters from **two (2) other persons** of your choice (not related to you) who can comment on your skills, capabilities, and character.

**Doctor of Ministry (DMin) Applicants:** Please submit no fewer than four (4) letters of reference according to the following guidelines:

1. A professor with whom you studied.
2. A person of leadership at your place of ministry.
3. A professional colleague.
4. A person of your choice (not related to you)

**List the names and titles of the four people who will be writing letters of reference for you:**

1.

2.

3.

4.

#### **IX. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

This section is intended to provide flexibility for you to share information which we may not anticipate with standardized questions. Answers are not required. If you wish, you may attach a separate sheet of paper detailing your responses.

A. You are welcome to provide additional materials which you believe will help the Admissions Committee assess your level of preparation for studies here. Any materials provided will become the property of Meadville Lombard Theological School and they will not be returned to you. Please list any additional materials you have attached to this application:

B. Is there any information we should know that might affect your fitness for ministry or for theological studies?

C. Is there anything else you wish to tell us?

**X. OPTIONAL INFORMATION**

Your responses to the following questions will not be used to assess your qualifications for admission but will be extremely helpful to us for planning purposes and to evaluate our own effectiveness. Your candid answers will be appreciated.

**A. FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

Do you wish to be considered for Meadville Lombard Scholarships:

- The Spencer and Susan Lavan Scholarship for Excellence (Full-tuition scholarship for one full-time Master of Divinity degree program student)?  yes  no
- Institutional Tuition Reduction Financial Assistance (MDiv, MALS, and MAR students only)?  yes  no

**All students interested in needs-based or merit-based scholarship** must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA.ed.gov). Use Meadville Lombard’s school code: G01723. This must be completed by the Priority application deadline (**March 15**) in order for the student to be considered.

Are you eligible for tuition benefits through the Veterans Administration (GI Bill)?  yes  no

Does your employer offer a tuition assistance benefit?  yes  no

If yes, please describe the benefits available to you for study at Meadville Lombard:

**B. DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

Meadville Lombard is committed to equal opportunity and seeks to create a diverse community of students, faculty and staff. Scholarships may be available for individuals from certain demographic groups. Ethnicity and racial identity questions on this application conform to U.S. Department of Education requirements for data collection and reporting.

**ETHNIC IDENTITY:** please check one:  Hispanic/Latino (of Spanish origin)  not Hispanic/Latino

**RACIAL IDENTITY(IES):** please check all that apply:

- White
- Black or African American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- Asian

**GENDER IDENTITY:**  Female  Male

Meadville Lombard is welcoming of students whose sex or gender identities are outside the mainstream and we remain committed to being an inclusive community. We offer only the male and female options under this category because educational reports required from Meadville Lombard by state and federal entities are formatted around these two options.

**FAMILY INFORMATION:**

Name of Partner (if any):

Children’s Names and Ages (if any):

**C. ABOUT YOUR DECISION TO APPLY**

Who or what influenced your choice to apply to Meadville Lombard? (please check all that apply)

- Alumni/ae (please list names)
- Friend (please list names)
- Staff (please list names)
- Faculty (please list names)
- Event (please list location and approximate dates)
- Online (please list site/source)
- Publication (please list names)
- Other (please specify)

If you have been to the Meadville Lombard campus, please note the appropriate dates:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Prospective Student Conference
- \_\_\_\_\_ Campus Visit
- \_\_\_\_\_ Attended a class (if so, list the class, too):

To what other schools are you applying?

**XI. CERTIFICATION**

I certify that the information contained in this application and in supporting documents is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge. I have reviewed all the sections of this application and have supplied all of the information requested. I understand that all documents submitted for application become the property of Meadville Lombard Theological School and are not returnable to the applicant or transferable to any third party.

Date:

Signature: