

ILLINOIS BAPTIST STATE ASSOCIATION
PRAY → **PARTNER** → **PLANT**
CHURCH PLANTING TEAM



Welcome to Church Planting

Thanks for your interest in planting a church with Illinois Baptist. This book is designed to be a guide and a resource for you as you work through the planting process. The book is divided into 6 sections: Discover, Discernment, Direction, Decided, Development, and Duplication.

Each section will have information, forms, activities and directions to guide you to the next phase of the process. You will also need to stay in contact with someone from the Church Planting team at IBSA or in your local association. The local missionary in your area will be a good resource for you in this process. In most planting scenarios this will be a good resource to use with your sponsoring church pastor as well.

Discovery Process

This part of the church planting journey will help you determine if you are ready to jump in and start the adventure towards planting. The grid below will guide you through the basic steps of the discovery process. At any point that you have questions, please contact our team by going to ILCHURCHPLANTING.COM and email or call any of our team members.

Discovery			
Activity	Description	Tools/Resources	Timeline
Complete Bible study and church planting discovery materials	The resources for this section will help you discover your gifting and preparedness for church planting.	-Discovery Tools -Discovery Tools Study Guide	Self-study, once completed you are ready for the next step.
Make contact with IBSA or locale Association's church planting team	This is a quick phone interview to determine which team member will be working with you through the planting process. Then you will be entered into the Illinois Baptist Database and asked to go to Mobilize Me.	-IBSA Church Planting Team -Mobilize Me	Upon completion of Discovery Tools

Discernment Process

The next step in the process is Discernment. Planting a church takes time and a lot of the work up front is simply exploring more about how God wired and made you, the type of church He's created you to plant, where a good fit for you is at in Illinois, and to shore up any loose ends in regards to calling. By working through this next section it is our hope that you'll continue to have those issues clarified.

Discernment			
Activity	Description	Tools/Resources	Timeline
Phone Interview	<p>This interview is a an opportunity for you, your sending church and someone from our team help you understand the church planting process in Illinois. At this point, we will determine whether you are ready to proceed with the assessment process.</p> <p>You will also receive a follow-up contact from a Church Plant Mobilizer at NAMB. They will get to know your story and help connect back to us if that hasn't already happened.</p>	<p>Free Initial Screening from NAMB and Church Planter Profiles</p> <p>NAMB Missionary Inventory Assessment</p>	Completion of the Pre-Assessments
Identify Place and Calling	<p>You will work through this section on your own to gather info and data on the church planting process, possible sites to plant in, as well as fleshing out your calling.</p> <p>We have demographic resources and other helpful tools for you to use to determine needs and direction. Contact our team for additional information.</p>	<p>-IBSA Church Planting</p> <p>-Site Visit (see appendix for sample), contact our office if interested</p> <p>-Demographics data is located at http://www.namb.net/research/. Click on Demographics Reports, and follow the instructions.</p>	1-6 months

Direction Process

With each step in the process the commitment level goes up a notch. Previously you were able to spend time exploring, discerning, seeking God, and listening for His voice. Now comes time to take a bold step forward and begin the application, interview, and assessment process. This means you're transitioning from "maybe" to "I'm going to start ..."

Direction			
Activity	Description	Tools/Resources	Timeline
Application Packet	<p>You will be sent a link from NAMB to complete the online application.</p> <p>The application will be reviewed by our team then you will be notified about next steps in the process. We will have one of the following recommendations: proceed with the process in preparation for planting, proceed with the process in preparation for the internship or apprenticeship, become a team member for a plant, or look at other ministry options.</p>	-Church Planting Application (you can track the progress of your file by clicking on this link)	2-3 weeks once the application and references are turned into NAMB.
Phone Interview	Someone from the IBSA or partnering Association will contact you to conduct to discuss next steps and a course of action.		30-45 minutes
Assessment/Site Visit	<p>At this point, you will be asked to complete the full assessment. The assessments will cost \$193 to complete. You will be reimbursed for some of costs by NAMB if you are approved to plant with us.</p> <p>Upon completion of the full assessments you will be invited to attend the Invest Retreat. The retreat is a 2 day event that happens once a quarter in Springfield IL. Your cost will be your travel to the event.</p>	<p>-Full ELI Assessment</p> <p>-Prepare/Enrich Marriage Assessment (if married)</p> <p>-CLI/CLSI360 Assessment</p> <p>-Invest Retreat</p>	<p>Expect 2-3 weeks for completion of the assessments and review by our team.</p> <p>Following the Invest event you will hear back from our team within 2-3 weeks.</p>
Placement	The church planter, DOM and sponsoring churches agree on fit and field		This takes place following the Assessment / Site Visit or upon a revisit to field

Decided Process

Now you're transitioning from simply exploring church planting to the point where you're saying, "YES, this is it!" In this next step of the process you'll be working through the different steps to actually begin the transition process. You're almost there so hold on!

Decided			
Activity	Description	Tools/Resources	Timeline
Approval	Possible funding is decided at this phase.	Funding is determined based on location, planter assessment and the Growth Projector. The Growth Projector is a new tool designed to help the planter, the sending church, the field partners and our team determine the appropriate amounts for a successful start.	Up to 1 month following assessment.
Decided		-Now What? .doc (see appendix)	Self-determined based on readiness to move to the field (between 1-2 months)
Covenant/Agreements signed	Agreements signed between planter, association, IBSA and partnering churches	Covenants and Agreements (email Church Planting Team member for the "Church Planter Agreement and Funding Covenant" Forms)	1-2 months depending on the Assoc and partnering churches approval process
Transition to field	Steps to move, secure housing, schools, etc. The Church Planting Catalyst or Send City Coordinator will be a resource for this phase.	They will assist you in the logistics of getting to the field, building local support, and resources as the work progresses.	self-determined
CP Strategy	Writing church planting proposal	Templates (on the Church Planting Toolkit resource CD)	1-2 months

Development Process

You've said "yes" to church planting, you've moved to the field, began creating a plan, and now it's time to refine and hone your strategy, skills, and networks.

Development			
Activity	Description	Tools/Resources	Timeline
Training	Foundational training to be conducted with CP and/or spouse within the first 6 months of when you move to the field or begin your church plant	-Straight Street will be sent to you when you register for training -IBSA team member will send you the appropriate links in preparation for training.	4-6 months
Leadership Training / Personal Growth	Regular opportunities offered to church planter for relevant and deepening growth	-CPN's (local church planting networks) -Coaching sessions -RightNow Training (online training provided by our team) -Involvement with local and state association training opportunities -Plant Midwest (STL region and Chicagoland) -Online peer learning available on NAMB's CP website.	Ongoing
Evaluation	Ongoing "one-on-one's" and/or "matrix" meetings with church planters for encouragement and accountability	-Contact the IBSA CPT for a location of networks near where you are planting.	Ongoing
Spouse Network	For the encouragement and "connection" of CP spouses with others and/or healthy/thriving church spouses.		Ongoing

Duplication Process

It is one thing to plant a solo church but a whole different animal to think of church multiplication. In the natural order of things it makes sense that an organism will multiply and even do so exponentially. What started off as Adam and Eve alone in the Garden now has multiplied to over 6 billion people worldwide! You should put into your DNA this multiplication gene so that you're thinking from the very beginning about the need to reproduce. This next and final section is to help you to begin planning how you can be a part of something much bigger and join the collective of like-minded planters doing the same.

Duplication			
Activity	Description	Tools/Resources	Timeline
Cooperative Giving Growth	Every CP is encouraged to support and grow their cooperative giving thereby increasing funds for future planting.	-CP Resources -Basic Training 2	Ongoing
Missional Mindset	Every CP (along with partnering church) has long- term strategy to plant	-Attend Churches Planting Churches Training -Attend Multiplying Church Training	Contact our team for training dates

Appendix

Site Visit / Sample Schedule

Thursday	Arrive in Chicago, check into hotel, dinner with IBSA Church Planting Team Member
Friday	City Tour #1
Saturday	City Tour #2
Sunday	Worship in the area you're looking to plant, lunch with Team Member, head home

IBSA Church Planting Process

Part of the application will process will require you to sign off on some basic lifestyle and belief questions. We want you to know what those questions are right up front, in case you have a concern or question about them before you start the application. The following list is an overview of those questions, please let us know if any of these questions would raise a red flag for you.

1. I have fully read and am in full agreement with the [2000 Baptist Faith and Message](#).
2. Share your understanding of the purpose of baptism in two or three paragraphs. When were you baptized? Was it by immersion?
3. I have fully read the [NAMB Conduct Expectations](#).
4. I will encourage my church to give at least 7% of undesignated tithes through the Cooperative Program and an additional 3% to your local association.
5. I embrace the sanctity of human life, both of the born and unborn.
6. Name of church attending: _____ Years of membership there: _____ (Is it a Southern Baptist Church?)
7. There will also be criminal background and credit checks completed. Do you have any past criminal history or issues with credit?
8. Are you married or single? If married, have you ever been divorced? If you have been divorced, please give the reasons for the divorce.

We also need to have a basic idea of your financial situation. Church planting can put a lot of stress on a couple. If you have a heavy debt load that makes will make planting more difficult, if not impossible for some. Please complete the following worksheet:

Please list your significant financial obligations, including all types of debt: Mortgages, major bills, insurance, pledges and any other items for which you must make provisions.

Name of Obligation	Amount	Annual Payment	Plan for Meeting it

Approximate amount you have in savings: \$

Approximate value of major assets (equity): \$

Approximate value of investments (e.g. 401K, Retirement, IRA/RRSP/RESP, taxable investments, etc.):

\$
\$
\$

Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? Yes No