

Parent Affiliated Church Information Guide

FORMATION:

While in session in August 2009, the General Council established a new designation for how a local church can be in relation to the Assemblies of God USA. The Parent Affiliated Church (PAC) is a provision that allows one General Council affiliated church to oversee or govern another church body or campus. It allows for one church to become a network of campuses, venues, and locations.

GOAL:

The Parent Affiliated Church (PAC) fosters a culture of multiplication by creating an atmosphere of freedom for apostolic leaders within the Assemblies of God to advance the kingdom of God without unnecessary restrictions and limitations.

OPPORTUNITIES AFFORDED TO GENERAL COUNCIL CHURCHES WITH PAC:

- Plant, own, and operate a campus or church within their own district.
- Plant, own, and operate a campus or church within another district.
- Plant, own, and operate a campus or church within a language or ethnic district.
- The campus or church is not required to be “spun off” to become a General Council church.
- The campus or church is not required to be released from the governance of the planting church.

Within the framework of a PAC, the following models are often used.

1. Multicampus—one church in several locations. This model can incorporate a variety of communication methods, such as live streaming, live in-person teaching, and online campuses. Also, some use a combination of these communication methods. Online campuses must include a physical gathering in a physical location and not be an online presence exclusively.
2. Multivenue—one church in the same location. This model incorporates multiple alternative services at one site. Often the alternative service is defined by style (traditional, contemporary, etc.). Other forms of multivenue include language or ethnic services.
3. Multichurch—one church in multiple locations. Often referred to as a network of churches that can be centrally governed with its own approach to ministry, unique to its context.
4. Microchurch—located in non-traditional locations, such as prisons, senior living centers, coffee shops, and military bases. This list of microchurches is not exhaustive.
5. Merger—a smaller church is adopted or absorbed by a larger church.

PAC CLARIFICATIONS:

1. **District Approval.** As a General Council church, the district does not provide approval for a PAC. Rather, the district desires to celebrate, showcase various models, and officially recognize the multiplication that is taking place within the district.
2. **Specific Structure.** The district recognizes that healthy churches can be structured in various forms. The structure, style, and ministry patterns will be in accordance with the desired outcome of the parent church. The district does not mandate PAC structures.
3. **Required Governance.** The governance and management of the PAC will be determined by the parent church. While no specific governance is required, the district strongly encourages parent churches to comply with all state, federal, non-profit, and local insurance compliance laws.
4. **Location Restrictions.** General Council churches are encouraged to plant, multiply, and expand into new communities to reach people who are far from God. The district recognizes apostolic leaders leverage ministry influence, demographic data, and geographic opportunities in site selection.

PAC RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The campus or church pastor carries at a minimum a local church credential.
2. The campus or church pastor connects with the district and other parent churches to glean expertise and resources.

Recommended Resource: *Multiplier Churches: Making the PAC Church Model Work* by Jeff Leake.

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