

Church Planting Residency

This is a 9-month residency at the Summit Church in Raleigh-Durham. Participants will receive a realistic experience of life and ministry in a church planting church while preparing to plant a church in North America. Residents receive assessment, training and ongoing coaching through the Summit and associated networks while recruiting, fundraising, and developing strategy for the future plant. Participants will immediately begin the pre-launch phase of church planting upon successful completion of the program.

Church Planting

We are committed to equipping leaders to plant Gospel-centered churches in North Carolina and North America. Our goal is to plant 1000 churches in our generation by planting city-center churches that plant churches. While our emphasis will be on reaching RDU and North Carolina, we are also targeting a few of the most influential and least reaching cities along the east coast.

Application / Cost

The residency runs August through May. An application and assessment are required to be considered. Residents qualify for a stipend and benefits determined on the basis of ministerial and educational experience. Participants in the program are encouraged to raise additional funds that can be applied to the cost of their living expenses.

Core Competencies

Ministry – participate in supervised ministry at the Summit Church

- Specific ministry responsibilities will be based upon calling, gifts, skills, and ministerial and educational experience but will typically include an assistant campus pastor role
- Exposure to a range of ministries, including teaching, worship leading, small groups, connections, community ministry, children, students, college, young professionals
- Learn the vision, values, and philosophy of ministry (DNA) of the Summit Church
- Participate in staff and elder’s meetings and understand the dynamics of an elder-led church

Fundraising – raise funds for the future church plant

- Receive training in fundraising and setting and managing a budget
- Residents are expected and will be given time to travel and raise funds
- Develop partnerships with local, regional, and national networks

Training – participate in the *Partners Program* through [SendRDU](#)

- Meet monthly with director, practitioners, and other church planters in training
- Exposure to proven ministry methods from around the country
- Gain insights from church planters and seasoned leaders
- Study the church planting process from developing vision to planting daughter churches
- Attend network training opportunities

Strategy – develop the strategic plan for your church plant

- Work with Church Planting Director to develop a roadmap and a timeline for the church plant
- Learn a strategic planning process that will give your church direction and clarity of purpose

Recruiting – develop the launch team

- Residents are given a license to recruit team members within the Summit
- Discover and recruit leaders who balance the resident’s leadership style

Assessment/Coaching – receive ongoing assessment and coaching

- Explore and understand core strengths and weaknesses through formal and informal assessment
- Receive mentoring and coaching from Church Planting Director and Summit pastoral staff
- Provide your wife with an opportunity to be mentored and encouraged
- Establish mentoring and coaching relationships that will continue as you plant

Application & Assessment Process

Parts of this process may be paired with application to an associated network such as Acts 29.

Application

- Initial Application*
- References
- Marriage & Family Questionnaire
- Theology & Philosophy of Ministry Questionnaire
- Church Planting Vision/Plan (if applicable)

Assessment

- Phone Interview
- Church Planting Profile
- Preaching Sample
- In-person Interview

Approval and Appointment

- Job Description
- Learning Contract
- Determination of Financial Package
- Transition Plan
- Approval by the elders of the Summit

*To request an application, please email info@sendrdu.com.