

Student Pledge & Ecclesiastical Endorsement



I, _____, declare that I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the Southern Virginia University Honor Code. With my signature, I authorize my ecclesiastical leader to release information concerning my personal conduct, including the information below.

Student Signature _____ **Phone** _____ **Date** _____

Instructions to Bishop/Branch President/Ecclesiastical Leader:

Southern Virginia University requires its students to adhere to an Honor Code (available online at svu.edu/honor). This endorsement represents the primary means by which the University assesses the candidate's commitment to live by these principles. **It has been our experience that students who have not been living these principles for a sufficient period of time to develop compatible behavior patterns will not be successful at this institution and often put other students at risk.** Because attendance at Southern Virginia represents a significant investment of both time and finances for the candidate, we request your **careful consideration** in providing this endorsement. This information will be used solely for administrative purposes, and it will be kept strictly confidential. If there are other personal observations or unique circumstances about this applicant that would help the Admissions Committee in making its decision, **please attach an additional statement.** If at any time you wish to withdraw your endorsement, please contact the Office of Admissions. Thank you for your assistance in this important matter.

1. I have known the candidate for _____ year(s) _____ month(s).

2. Southern Virginia University requests that its students be spiritually prepared to attend.

a. Applicant is a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (or another faith) in good standing Yes No

b. For LDS Applicants:

i. Applicant has completed an honorable 18- or 24-month mission Yes No
If yes, where did the applicant serve? _____

ii. Years of seminary attendance (please circle one) 0 1 2 3 4

c. Applicant attends worship services every Sunday twice per month infrequently.

3. Southern Virginia University requires that its students be strictly honest in all their dealings with others. Students are not to steal, lie, gossip, use technology for dishonest or unwholesome purposes, be academically dishonest, or knowingly violate civil laws.

a. Is the candidate living an honest life according to the standards outlined above? Yes No

b. Is the candidate currently in prison, on probation or parole, under restriction with any court, or has he or she ever been convicted of any crime other than a traffic violation? Yes No

4. Southern Virginia University requires its students to live the law of chastity, including, but not limited to, abstinence from all forms of sexual intimacy outside of marriage, abuse, pornography, vulgarity, and indecent forms of entertainment.

Does the candidate currently live the law of chastity as outlined above? Yes No

Do you feel the candidate is committed to continuing to abide by the law of chastity? Yes No

5. Southern Virginia University requires its students to abstain from all forms of alcohol, tobacco, coffee, tea, and use of illegal drugs or misuse of controlled substances.

Does the candidate currently abide by these health principles as outlined above and agree to continue to maintain these standards? Yes No

6. Southern Virginia University requires its students to abide by dress and grooming standards that emphasize modesty, neatness, and cleanliness. Some of the forms of dress and grooming that are not acceptable include:

- Sleeveless, form-fitting, or revealing clothing
- Extreme hairstyles and hair colors (men's hair must be trimmed above the collar and off the ear)
- Facial hair (other than a conservative moustache)
- Body piercings (except one pair of earrings for women)
- Tattoos are not appropriate, but if already existing, should be covered if possible

Do you feel the candidate is committed to abide by these dress and grooming standards? Yes No

7. Having reasonably assessed this candidate's spiritual, emotional, and social preparedness to contribute positively to the environment of Southern Virginia University, I can provide the following endorsement:

Based on my assessment, I strongly endorse endorse do not endorse this candidate.

Interviewer _____
Position/Title _____
Ecclesiastical Unit _____

Contact Number _____
Signature _____
Date _____

Please mail or fax completed endorsement to
Southern Virginia University, Office of Admissions, One University Hill Drive, Buena Vista, VA 24416, fax 540-261-8559
Questions? Call the Office of Admissions at 540-261-8421.