

CONSIDERING ORDINATION?

Greetings, licensed minister!

If you desire to make application for ordination in the coming year, please note these expectations.

SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS (Excerpted from General Council Bylaws Article VII. Ministry, Section 3.e.)

Ordained minister - Qualifications are outlined in I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:7-9. In addition:

- (1) Applicants must be twenty-three (23) years of age or older.
- (2) They must have met all the requirements in making application and in completing the prescribed application form.
- (3) No person may be ordained to the ministry until he or she has shown evidence of a divine call and has held a ministry license and has been actively engaged in ministry and proclamation of the gospel for at least two (2) full consecutive years immediately prior thereto.
- (4) Residency requirements of applicants. Applicants must be residents of or hold credentials in the district where they make application and appear before its credentials committee. District councils are required to refrain from approving any applicant for ordination who may have been licensed in another district, until such licensed minister shall have been a member of the district in which he or she is seeking ordination at least one (1) year. Applicants who have not been a member of the district where they apply for ordination for two (2) full consecutive years must meet the requirements and secure the endorsement of the officers of the district in which they were previously licensed, as well as the district of their residence.
- (5) Exceptions to requirements. The General Council Credentials Committee, upon request by a district credentials committee and where **exceptional** circumstances exist, **may** waive the requirements for an applicant holding a ministry license for two (2) full consecutive years or being a member of the district in which he or she is seeking ordination for at least one (1) year.
- (6) In order to maintain active status, ordained ministers shall be engaged in viable ministry and proclamation of the gospel except for cases of disability, retirement, or other valid circumstances as determined by the general secretary.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- (1) Four years of Assemblies of God endorsed postsecondary college coursework (as a biblical studies major, ministerial studies major, or other church-related major as defined by the Commission on Christian Higher Education), which includes a course on Assemblies of God History, Missions, and Governance.
- (2) Ordination courses through the Berean School of the Bible or Iowa School of Ministry.
- (3) A copy of your current transcript(s) should be sent to the Credentialing office at the Iowa Ministry Network office (if not already one on file). Please include a course description of relevant courses you have completed at non-Assemblies of God institutions.

ACTIONS TO TAKE

- (1) Complete and submit the online questionnaire.
- (2) Complete any remaining courses and submit transcripts of the same. Please contact Bekah Sonntag if you have questions specific to your situation (credentialing@imnag.org).

Joyfully sharing this journey with you,

Gary Pilcher
Network Secretary