



# OFFICIAL APPLICATION FOR A LOCAL CHURCH CREDENTIAL

*This form is to be completed by all candidates applying for a local church credential. It is to be returned to the pastor. All questions must be answered clearly and fully. If sufficient room is not found on the form for a proper answer to any question, state your answer on a separate sheet of paper.*

*Credentialing Pastor, please review any questions that refer to Appendix A and follow instructions provided.*

## APPLICANT:

*Please print*

1. Full name \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security No. \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_
2. Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No. (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_
- City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_
3. Present county of residence \_\_\_\_\_
4. Please provide a list of your previous places of residence during the past 5 years (include counties and dates).  
*(Use additional paper if necessary.)*
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

5. Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

6. Gender Male  Female

7. U.S. Citizen?  yes  no **(See Appendix A)**

If you are not a U.S. Citizen, do you have the right to work in the U.S.?

Permanently  yes  no Temporarily  yes  no *Attach a copy of documentation affirming U.S. legal status.*

Type of visa or worker's permit and expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

8. Present marital status: Single  Married  Divorced  Widowed  **(See Appendix A)**

**(See Appendix A if either applicant or spouse answers "yes" on Questions 10 or 11.)**

9. Full name of spouse (if married) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

10. Have you ever been divorced or had a marriage annulled?  yes  no Spouse  yes  no  
If yes, date of divorce/annulment \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

11. Do you have a former spouse still living?  yes  no  
Does your spouse have a former spouse still living?  yes  no If yes to either, please give a brief summary.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

12. Names and birth dates of children, if any \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

13. Have you (or your spouse) in the past or do you presently hold a ministerial credential with a church, another denomination, or ministerial body?  yes  no Spouse  yes  no

14. If your answer above is "yes", please complete the following:

a. The name of the denomination or ministerial credentialing body? \_\_\_\_\_

b. The type of credential held \_\_\_\_\_

c. The period of time during which the credential was active \_\_\_\_\_

15. Have you been born again according to John 3:5?  yes  no When? \_\_\_\_\_
16. Have you been baptized by immersion in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit according to Matthew 28:19?  yes  no When? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Have you received the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the initial physical evidence of speaking in other tongues according to Acts 2:4?  yes  no When? \_\_\_\_\_
18. Has your spouse been born again according to John 3:5?  yes  no When? \_\_\_\_\_
19. Has your spouse been baptized by immersion in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit according to Matthew 28:19?  yes  no When? \_\_\_\_\_
20. Has your spouse received the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the initial physical evidence of speaking in other tongues according to Acts 2:4?  yes  no When? \_\_\_\_\_
21. Describe why you believe that God has called you into the ministry. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
22. Do you ultimately desire to receive credentials with the Assemblies of God?  yes  no
23. Do you fully subscribe to the Statement of Fundamental Truths as contained in the General Council Constitution Article V?  yes  no
24. Why do you desire to receive ministerial credentials with your local church? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
25. Have you ever filed bankruptcy?  yes  no
26. Are you a member of any secret order?  yes  no If so, which one? \_\_\_\_\_
27. Have you ever been convicted of a felony?  yes  no
28. Have you ever been accused of, engaged in, or investigated for any sexual misconduct involving a minor or adult, including but not limited to child abuse, child molestation, indecent liberties with a child, incest, adultery, sexual harassment, rape, assault, battery, murder, kidnapping, child pornography, sodomy, or sexual contact with a counselee?  yes  no
29. If the answer to question #27 or #28 is "yes", please provide an explanation on separate paper. Include any relevant court documents.
30. Do you voluntarily consent to a background check?  yes  no
31. Have you ever been subject to discipline by a religious body?  yes  no  
 If yes, explain fully on a separate sheet of paper. (Identify each case, when and where each incident occurred, the religious body involved, and the outcome.)
32. Have you ever held credentials with the Assemblies of God?  yes  no  
 If yes, state particulars. \_\_\_\_\_
33. Have you ever made application for credentials to any ministerial credentialing body and been refused?  yes  no
34. What is your belief and practice regarding tithing to your local church? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 35a. Since conversion, have you used tobacco, alcohol, illegal or recreational drugs in any form or been involved in gambling or pornography?  yes  no If yes, please explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 35b. The official position of the Assemblies of God is total abstinence from tobacco, alcohol, illegal or recreations drugs in any form, gambling or pornography. As a credentialed minister of an Assemblies of God local church, do you pledge to totally abstain from these practices?  yes  no

36. What Bible or ministry training have you completed?

a. Formal Bible college training?  yes  no Major \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Name of college/Bible college \_\_\_\_\_ Semesters completed \_\_\_\_\_

b. Correspondence courses?  yes  no

Name of school \_\_\_\_\_ Number of courses completed \_\_\_\_\_

c. Other training? \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



***THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY PASTOR OR CHURCH SECRETARY ONLY***

**CHURCH BOARD ENDORSEMENT:**

The Church Board endorses this applicant for a Local Church Credential on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor or Church Secretary



**See back page for Appendix A**

## Appendix A

### Clarification for the following questions:

#### Question 7.

All those who hold a local church credential should provide the church a Social Security number and be a U.S. citizen or, if a non-citizen, be able to give proof that he/she can legally perform work for compensation on the basis of either of the following:

- a. A lawful permanent resident (any category of immigrant visa) who holds a Permanent Resident Card (green card).
- b. A non-citizen having an R-1 nonimmigrant temporary work visa or other lawful nonimmigrant temporary work visa.

#### Questions 8, 10, and 11.

General Council Bylaws (article VII, Section s, paragraph k; and Article IX, Section 5, paragraph e) state “we disapprove of any married minister of the Assemblies of God holding credentials if either minister or spouse has a former spouse living unless the divorce occurred prior to conversion.” The same is applicable for the local church credential holder.

If the applicant has answered “yes” to either question 10 and/or question 11, the local church pastor must determine with certainty that the divorce occurred **prior** to conversion or was for the scriptural causes of a former spouse’s marital unfaithfulness (Matthew 19:9), or the abandonment of the believer by the unbeliever (I Corinthians 7:10-15).

Question 10 asks for the date of the divorce/annulment, question 15 asks for the date of salvation. If the date in question 10 **precedes** the date given in question 15, the applicant meets the General Council qualification for a preconversion divorce.

If the date given in question 10 is after the date given in question 15, it must be determined if spousal marital unfaithfulness or abandonment of the believer by the unbeliever was involved thus meeting the General Council qualifications for credentials.