EU Use Only

Church of God
Ministerial Licensure Application

Ordained (Bishop)

NAME OF APPLICANT:
_____ **Note:** By completing this application form I, the above applicant, consent to my personal data, contained herein, to be transmitted to the European and International offices of the Church of God Cleveland, TN, USA
MINISTERIAL FILE NUMBER:
_____
NATIONAL/TERRITORIAL OFFICE:
_____

CHURCH OF GOD INTERNATIONAL OFFICES

Cleveland, Tennessee, U.S.A.

August 2021

Church of God

Ministerial Licensure Application

Ordained (Bishop)

In consideration of your application for the rank of ordained (bishop), a careful evaluation of your ministerial progress will be made. It is essential that all personal and professional data be current. Consequently, this application will repeat requests for information provided in earlier applications. To qualify for the rank of ordained (bishop), you must be presently engaged in full-time ministry. The record of your ministry and your present activities in ministry will determine your eligibility for advancement to the highest rank of ministry. (NOTE: If you are transferring into the Church of God, you must complete a *New Minister, Exhorter, Calling And Ministry Studies (CAMS), Minister of Music, and Minister of Christian Education Application* to accompany this application.)

PART I: APPLICANT INFORMATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name_____ Telephone_____ Cell Phone _____

Address_____

Nationality_____ State any dual nationality: _____

City_____ State/Province_____ Country_____ Postal Code: _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Business Phone (____) _____

Mobile Phone (____) _____ Email _____

☐ Male ☐ Female

Place of Birth _____ Date of Birth _____ (dd/mm/yyyy)

Ministerial credential number_____ Place of local church membership_____

_____

Are you consistent in tithing to the church tithing fund? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Date you were licensed as an exhorter _____ Date you were licensed as an ordained minister _____

Describe the frequency and content of your personal devotions. _____

_____

_____

_____

What significant spiritual experiences have you had since you became an ordained minister? ___

_____

_____

_____

How many times have you read the Bible through since you became an ordained minister?___

Are you presently engaged in a program of regular Bible study? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Describe that study: _____

_____

_____

MINISTERIAL ACTIVITY

(*Use additional paper if necessary.*)

What is your present ministerial assignment? _____

Is this a full-time assignment? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you involved in other income-producing work? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe the work. _____

Describe how your concept of ministry has changed since you became an ordained minister. _____

Evaluate your growth as a minister since becoming an ordained minister. _____

Briefly outline your ministerial activities since becoming an ordained minister. _____

Since you became an ordained minister, in which educational programs have you participated? _____

Why do you believe you are ready to advance to the rank of ordained (bishop) in the Church of God? _____

FAMILY INFORMATION

If married, name of spouse: _____

Spouse's email address: _____

If married, does your spouse support your call to ministry? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Describe your spouse's participation in ministry. _____

If you have children, list the name, age, and gender of all your children: _____

If there are children at home, describe their participation in church activities. _____

If there are children at home, describe their response to your parental leadership. _____

Describe the frequency and content of family devotions._____

_____

_____

_____

INFORMATION CONCERNING APPLICANT'S MARITAL STATUS:

- ❑ Single, never married
- ❑ Single, divorced
- ❑ Single, widow or widower
- ☐ Married with no prior marriage
- ☐ Married but separated
- ☐ Married with prior marriage

Has there been any change in your marital status since you became licensed as an ordained minister?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If the answer is yes, describe the change: _____

_____

_____

INFORMATION CONCERNING APPLICANT'S PRIOR MARRIAGE(S), IF ANY:

How many prior marriages?___

How was (were) the marriage(s) terminated?

1st Marriage: ☐ Death of Spouse ☐ Divorce ☐ Annulment

2nd Marriage: ☐ Death of Spouse ☐ Divorce ☐ Annulment

INFORMATION CONCERNING SPOUSE'S PRIOR MARRIAGE(S), IF ANY:

How many prior marriages?___

How was (were) the marriage(s) terminated?

1st Marriage: ☐ Death of Spouse ☐ Divorce ☐ Annulment

2nd Marriage: ☐ Death of Spouse ☐ Divorce ☐ Annulment

BACKGROUND QUESTIONS

Answer all questions by checking no or yes.

1. Has disciplinary action of any sort ever been taken against you by a licensing board, professional association, or educational/training institution? ❑ No ❑ Yes
   Have there been written complaints against you that did <u>not</u> result in discipline? ❑ No ❑ Yes
   Are there any complaints pending against you before any of the above-named bodies? ❑ No ❑ Yes
2. Have you ever been subjected to ecclesiastical disciplinary proceedings? ❑ No ❑ Yes
3. Have you ever been asked to resign or been terminated by a training program or employer? ❑ No ❑ Yes
4. Do you have a history of alcohol abuse? ❑ No ❑ Yes
5. Do you have a history of drug abuse with any other drugs: recreational, prescription, over-the-counter, or illicit? ❑ No ❑ Yes
6. Is there anything regarding your personal and private life, such as immorality, pornography problems, or other problems, which you knowingly should divulge to those examining you for ministry? ❑ No ❑ Yes

PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO THE CHURCH OF GOD

In applying for ministerial credentials with the Church of God, I affirm my personal belief in the doctrine contained in the Declaration of Faith and elsewhere in the current Church of God Book of Discipline, Church Order, and Governance of the*Minutes* of the International General Assembly of the Church of God. I believe that the Practical Commitments of the Church of God are biblical exhortations for the life of holiness. I affirm my personal belief in, and practice of, the tithing system asrecommended by the International General Assembly. I have prayerfully considered the above questions and statements, and I have answered them honestly and conscientiously to the best of my understanding and ability. I hereby pledge allegianceto the Church of God and dedicate my ministry to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Applicant's Signature_____Date _____

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

It should be noted that in the European Union, criminal background checks are not permitted except when the candidate will work with minors or is being employed under contract by the church for which this application applies. Even then, the candidate alone requests the criminal background check and voluntarily submits it to the National Overseer for evaluation. The Overseer may NOT retain that document nor make a copy of it.

Was a criminal background check required for this application?

□ Yes □ No

If 'Yes' was the background check submitted to me, the National Overseer _____ (country)?

□ Yes □ No

Contents of the check will be considered in the application process.

PART II: PASTORAL RECOMMENDATION

(If the applicant is a pastor, the district overseer will complete this pastoral recommendation section.)

MINISTERIAL ACTIVITY

(*It may be necessary for you to interview the applicant and his/her family prior to completing this recommendation.*)

How long have you known the applicant?_____In what relationships? _____

_____

Please explain why you feel that you know the applicant well enough to evaluate his eligibility for the rank of ordained (bishop)?

_____

Do you know of any reason why the applicant is not qualified for advancement to the rank of ordained (bishop)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, explain: _____

_____

_____

Are you aware of the marital history of the applicant? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(It is essential that you be able to respond yes. If you cannot respond yes, then you should interview the applicant and gain this information before proceeding.)

In what ministerial position is the applicant serving? _____

_____

Is the applicant fully involved in the ministry? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, explain: _____

_____

_____

Has the applicant engaged in continuing education and training? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what is the nature of the training? _____

_____

_____

If no, why not? _____

_____

In what areas of ministry is the applicant most active? _____

_____

_____

In what areas of ministry have you seen the most improvement? _____

_____

_____

List any area(s) of the ministry or personal conduct where you believe that the applicant's performance is unsatisfactory: _____

_____

_____

List any area(s) where the applicant excels in ministerial knowledge and skills: _____

_____

_____

In what area(s) of ministerial knowledge and skills does the applicant need the most improvement? _____

_____

_____

PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Does the applicant have a history of good interpersonal relationship in local ministry? □ Yes □ No
If no, explain: _____

_____

_____

Does the applicant have a good record of personal and financial integrity in the church and community?

□ Yes □ No / Not sure

If no, or not sure, explain: _____

_____

_____

_____

Does the applicant have the trust and respect of fellow ministers? □ Yes □ No

If no, explain: _____

_____

_____

Does the applicant demonstrate all of the following: a positive attitude, a sincere love for people, emotional stability, spiritual maturityand commitment? □ Yes □ No

If no to any of these, explain: _____

_____

_____

Does the applicant demonstrate a respectful and cooperative attitude toward those over him/her in the ministry?

□ Yes □ No

If no, explain: _____

_____

_____

Signature of the Pastor _____

Name of the Local Church _____

Date _____

Recommendation of Pastor

I recommend the applicant for the ordained (bishop) credential.

❑ Yes ❑ Yes, with reservations ❑ No

If yes with reservations, please write an explanation _____

Signature:_____ Date: _____

Recommendation of District Overseer

I recommend the applicant for the ordained (bishop) credential.

❑ Yes ❑ Yes, with reservations ❑ No

If yes with reservations, please write an explanation _____

Signature:_____ Date: _____

Recommendation of National/Territorial Overseer

I recommend the applicant for the ordained (bishop) credential.

❑ Yes ❑ Yes, with reservations ❑ No

If yes with reservations, please write an explanation _____

Signature:_____ Date: _____

FOR NATIONAL/TERRITORIAL OFFICE USE ONLY

To: Presiding Bishop _____

(Name)

This is to certify that _____

(Name)

has been duly examined on the doctrine and government of the Church of God by the Examining Board of _____ and is hereby recommended for the ordained (bishop) rank.

Date of Examination_____Grade _____

National/Territorial Overseer, please fill in all the above blanks.

Examining Board: Country _____

_____	_____
National/Territorial Overseer	Ordained (Bishop)
_____	_____
Ordained (Bishop)	Ordained (Bishop)

FOR FIELD DIRECTOR'S OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Approved:_____Area/Territory: _____

_____

Field Director's Signature

FOR INTERNATIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY

Credential File Number: _____

RANK OF MINISTRY: ORDAINED (BISHOP)

❑ New ❑ Reinstated ❑ Promoted

Name _____

❑ Male ❑ Female Date of Birth_____Nationality_____

Approved By _____

(Presiding Bishop)

Date Approved _____

Credentials issued, date: _____

Credentials delivered to: _____

Field Director of:_____Date:_____

Remarks: _____

_____