

OPTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE STUDY REQUIREMENTS

The ideal ministerial education involves both content and socialization. Both information and transformation are desired goals. For these reasons a formal studies route is highly recommended if at all possible. In our region these include:

Northwest Nazarene University, Nampa, ID
Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, MO
Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, CO

The Church recognizes that some are not able to transplant to another city or area of the country for several years in order to meet the educational requirements for preparation in obedience to the Call of God. For that reason the ministerial Course of Study is also offered through a variety of other approved means:

Northwest District Clergy Development Classes
Rev. Dean Wilson - deanw@westvalleychurch.com
On-line Modular courses through NNU.
Dr. Jim Rotz – JHRotz@NNU.Edu
On-line Modular courses through NBC.
online@nbc.edu

An MIT has two years to complete the requires 6 Modules for eligibility for a district license. The entire course of study must be completed in 10 years. (See *Manual* 426.4, and 427.4).

AFFIRMING GOD'S CALL

Shepherding those God is calling to full-time ministry

Help for Getting a person started in the process

Help for the process of granting a Local Ministers License

Help for Guiding a person toward a District Ministers License

Seeing an Individual through to Ordination

Northwest District Ministerial Development Board

THE CALL TO FULL-TIME MINISTRY

The Church of the Nazarene recognizes that all believers are ministers. But the Head of the Church calls some men and women to the more official and public work of the ministry.

When a divine call is sensed, the proper steps should be taken for its recognition and endorsement. Suitable help should be given to assist the candidate in obeying God's call to full-time ministry.

INITIAL RESPONSE

Upon hearing that an individual feels called of God to ministry, meet with the person and have him or her share about the call. Affirm the individual his ability to hear God's summons to service.

Guide the person in selecting between Lay ministry and Clergy. There will be time in the process for helping the person choose between the Elder track and the Deacon track, if they sense the call to become clergy.

Review the process at the various levels, Local Ministers License; District Ministers License and Ordination.

GUIDING TOWARD A LOCAL MINISTERS LICENSE

Several resources are available from our Headquarters Office. Access is provided on the Internet at this link, <http://nazarenepastor.org/clergyeducation/Default.aspx?tabid=71>.

Among the "District Resources" they offer, you will find helpful guidelines, checklists and forms. Click on "Local Ministers License" to access these three helps: _____

PROCEDURES FOR ISSUING A LOCAL MINISTER'S LICENSE

INTERVIEW GUIDELINES FOR THE LOCAL CHURCH BOARD

APPLICATION FOR A LOCAL MINISTERS LICENSE

An alternative would be to simply request these helps from the district office at office@nwdistrict.org or from Dr. Ron Hunter at pastorron@cdanaz.org

A Minister In Training (MIT) will need to be enrolled. As pastor, you can do this by simply sending in a copy of the Application for a Local Ministers License. Upon receipt of that Application the MIT will be considered enrolled and will receive notice of the various Modules being offered on the district. You may want to guide the MIT in the decisions about the educational process and how to fulfill the requirements of the Course of Study.

The MIT will want to invest in a Handbook for Christian Ministries. This is downloadable from the Headquarters web site: <http://nazarenepastor.org/clergyeducation> .

GUIDING TOWARD A DISTRICT MINISTERS LICENSE

At the **recommendation** of the Local Church Board and the completion of eight requirements, an MIT may apply for a District Ministers License. Two of these requirements are:

- 1) Having had a Local Ministers License for one full year.
- 2) "...have completed one-fourth of a validated course of study for ministers, or have passed the Nazarene history and polity courses and five additional courses in a validated course of study for ministers. (see 2005-2009 *Manual 427.1*)

An **application** for a district license may be requested from the district office at office@nwdistrict.org or from Dr. Ron Hunter at pastorron@cdanaz.org. If an MIT has a divorce in his or her past, this must be cleared as a barrier to pursuing a license or ordination. The interview process where divorce will be reviewed will be held before the Ministerial Development Board (MDB) at its October meeting.

Applications for a District Ministers License will be considered in Regional interviews by sub-committees of the MDB. Interview times may be arranged with the various secretaries of the sub-committees of the MDB.