

The Path to Ministry in the NC West District

1. Talk to your Pastor and get approval from your Local board of Administration and Church. Your Pastor and Local Church Secretary should send a recommendation letter to the NC West District Office.

Local Church Recommendation Form

Questions for Local Board Interview with Ministerial Candidate

Helpful Information as you begin your path to Ministry

2015 Ministerial Preparation Information Kit

Current Academic Requirements

<https://www.wesleyan.org/preparation>

2. Complete Application/Permission Form for a background check

<https://www.ministryopportunities.org/ncwestdist>

3. Enroll with The Wesleyan Church Department of Education and Clergy Development. (There is a one time \$20 fee to complete this enrollment). If you have completed some of the educational requirements you may contact the district office about the process of transferring those credits.

<https://secure.wesleyan.org/em/enroll>

4. Begin the process with the NC West District Board of Ministerial Development (DBMD). This is a board of Pastors and Lay people who will walk with you through your Ministerial training process. You will need to complete the following documents.

Personal Data Inventory

Initial Reference Forms (You must have three forms completed and one should be from your local church Pastor. These forms should be mailed directly to the district office by those completing the form.)

5. Begin Your Preparation by enrolling in a Wesleyan University or Seminary, Cross Training Program, FLAME, FLAMA or Correspondence Courses. Brief information about each of these paths can be provided below.

Educational Options Sheet

Links to the Wesleyan Universities and Seminaries can be found at <http://www.ncwestdistrict.org/resources-15>

Cross Training

<http://www.okwu.edu/adult/crosstraining/>

FLAME/FLAMA

<https://www.wesleyan.org/flame>

<https://www.wesleyan.org/flama>

Correspondence Courses

<https://www.wesleyan.org/correspondence>

Ministers Transferring to the NC West District of The Wesleyan Church

From Another District of The Wesleyan Church

1. If a minister desires to accept a pastoral call from a church within the bounds of another district, or if a minister not serving as a pastor desires to transfer ministerial membership to another district, the minister must first obtain the written permission of the General Superintendent and the district superintendent over the district into which transfer is desired. When such has been obtained, the minister shall ask the district superintendent for a letter of transfer to be sent directly to the district superintendent of the district into which transfer is desired.

From Another Denomination

1. Present a letter of standing or other credentials and transcripts or other records of ministerial training to the district superintendent.
2. Guided by the district superintendent fill out the Transferring Ministers application (which should be sent along with a copy of your credentials to the General Superintendent's office) in order to seek approval from the General Superintendent for acceptance, which if granted will be subject to the following procedures:

Application for Transferring Minister

Questionnaire for Transferring Minister

- a. You shall be examined by the district board of ministerial development relative to your Christian experience, call, qualifications for the ministry, the equivalence of training to the Wesleyan course of study, and to the nature of your ordination, commission or license. A report of the examination with records and transcripts shall be sent to The Division of Education and Clergy Development who shall communicate with you regarding any academic work necessary to meet the equivalency of our course of study
- b. Enroll with The Division of Education and Clergy Development and complete any academic work required. Completion of studies in Wesleyan history and polity will be minimum requirements but other courses may also be necessary in order for you to complete training considered by The Wesleyan Church to be minimal for its ministers. Completion of any academic work may be done at an area Wesleyan college, by correspondence through Education and Clergy Development, or by attending a FLAME, FLAMA, or district extension course. (See #5 under Path to Ministry in NC West District for information on ways to fulfill academic requirements)
- c. Serve under appointment in the district in a supply capacity while completing any deficiencies. It is expected that any deficiencies will be met within a period of one year. The one-year relationship with the Church as a minister in process of transfer may be extended by vote of the district conference. The district board of administration may terminate the relationship if it is determined that it is not in the best interests of the district to continue the relationship.
- d. The district board of ministerial development shall recommend you to the district conference for full standing when your service has been satisfactory and all academic work has been completed.