

DBMD NO. 5 - CREDENTIALING APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

This application questionnaire assumes the candidate has completed the education requirements for their credential pathways, the years of service requirement, any other outstanding DBMD requirements, and is nearly ready for credentialing by the District Conference. Questionnaire answers will enable the district leaders to judge the candidate's readiness for credentialing. The questionnaire should be completed carefully and fully.

Some questions are simply Yes/No answers but allow for comments. Comments are not always necessary for these questions, but if you feel you should add further clarification or detail, or if the question specifically requests further explanation, please use the provided comment section.

Personal Information

- Full name.
- Email address.
- Current Phone Number

Family Information

- Update your marital and family record.
- Does your spouse/fiancé testify to conversion?
- Does your spouse/fiancé testify to Sanctification?
- Explain any reservation your spouse/fiancé may have about being married to an ordained minister in the church.
- Explain any problem your spouse/fiancé may have experienced "fitting in" as a minister's companion.
- Do you or your spouse/fiancé have any obligations that might interfere with your primary ministry? If yes, explain.
- Do you consistently meet all financial commitments so that you do not compromise your ministry or standing with your creditors?
- Are you, or have, been involved in a court case where charges have been brought against you? If yes, explain.

Health Information

- Comment on your present state of health. Include any major illnesses since filing the *Personal Data Inventory Questionnaire*.
- Have you had a nervous breakdown or an emotionally traumatizing experience? If yes, explain.
- State any health factors in your family which might impact your ministry.

Ministerial Qualification

- What devotional patterns have you established?
- Are you maintaining a life of personal purity and moral integrity?
- What is your understanding of the experience of entire sanctification?
- Have you experienced, or are you diligently seeking, this grace?
- What terms would you use to describe your present relationship with God?
- Of what Wesleyan church are you a member?
- Of what Wesleyan church is your spouse a member?
- When were you first issued a district license in The Wesleyan Church?
- By what district?
- How long have you carried a district license continuously?



- This is the most important step in your quest for credentialing. Comment again on the urgency of your call to the ministry. Include your understanding of whether a call is for a lifetime, or whether it is acceptable to go into secular employment and become an ordained minister without appointment. Most districts have long lists of ministers without appointment who have been in secular work for years and may never plan to go back into the ministry. Do you envision this happening to you?
- Are you determined to make the ministry your life’s work?
- Do you plan to give full time to the ministry?
- What ministerial experiences have you had?
- What do you feel will be the main focus of your ministry?
- List, in order of importance, what you consider to be the most vital qualities necessary for making a person a good minister.
- How would you define what it means to be “successful” in ministry?
- Check the pastoral functions in which you have had some practical experience and then indicate the level of preparedness or competency you feel in each.
- Rate the pastoral functions in which you have had some practical experience and then indicate the level of preparedness or competency you feel in each.

Please rate yourself from 1-Lack Competence to 5-Prepared if you have done these functions. If you have not please choose Zero Experience With.

Check (experience)

- Basic pattern, sermon preparation
- Visitation - hospital
- Visitation - shut-in
- Visitation - elderly
- Visitation - prospects
- Visitation - community canvass
- Visitation - business, professional
- Visitation - evangelism
- Method of personal evangelism
- Method of discipling
- Membership training
- Membership reception
- Membership transfer
- Premarital counseling
- Wedding(s)
- Marital counseling
- Pre-funeral pastoral care
- Baptismal service
- Administering Lord’s Supper
- Planning worship service
- Conducting worship service
- Preaching
- Planning special day observance (Christmas, Easter, etc.)
- Preparing social media interactions
- Preparing agenda for LBA
- Session of the LBA
- Session of the LCC
- Small Groups/Sunday school organization
- Small Groups/Sunday school supervision

Lack Competence

Prepared

○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○

Check (experience)

- Relation to Headquarters
- Relation to District
- Relation to Wesleyan universities
- Office management
- Maintaining membership lists, etc.
- Property and legal matters
- Preparing annual church budget
- Managing church finances
- Preparing reports to LBA
- Preparing reports to DS
- Preparing reports to district conference
- District responsibilities
- Ministerial association

Lack Competence

Prepared

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

- Lifelong personal growth and self-improvement are essential to effective ministry. What do you plan to do to keep current in the areas of intellectual stimulation, pastoral care and counseling, church leadership, biblical literacy, and theological understanding?
- Have you seen individuals converted and incorporated into the church because of your ministry? Be specific.
- Have individuals been encouraged to grow spiritually because of your involvement in their lives? Explain.
- What do you believe will be the strongest area of your ministry? The weakest?
- What do you conceive to be the purpose or meaning of ordination, and why do you desire to be ordained? (skip if not pursuing ordination)
- What do you believe will be the effect of the strain of living constantly in the public eye on yourself? on your family? Please comment, with a focus on your emotional, spiritual, and relational well-being.

The Wesleyan Church

- Do you, or have you, had reservations concerning your loyalty to The Wesleyan Church? Explain.
- Will you be conscientious in your promotion of the district and general interests of the Church?
- Can you give full support to the institutions of The Wesleyan Church? If not, explain.
- Read again The Guides and Helps for Holy Living (Discipline 260-268 and the membership conditions of The Wesleyan Church (Discipline 553-558). Can you fully support, practice and teach the principles of living outlined? If you have hesitancy or questions, explain.

The Discipline of The Wesleyan Church: <https://wesleyan.ca/discipline>

- a. Honor the Lord’s Day (265:1).
- b. Abstain from spiritism (265:2).
- c. Exercise faithful stewardship (265:3).
- d. Demonstrate a positive social witness by abstaining from all gambling (265:4).
- e. Demonstrate a positive social witness by abstaining from destructive substances (265:4).
- f. Demonstrate a positive social witness by refraining from membership in secret societies (265:4).
- g. Follow the Scriptures’ teaching regarding gender identity and sexual conduct. (265:5).
- h. Follow the Scriptures’ teaching on marriage and divorce (265:6).
- i. Preserve the sanctity of the home (265:7).
- j. Work to advance God’s kingdom (265:8).
- k. Grow in knowledge, love and grace (265:9).
- l. Preserve the fellowship of the Church with reference to use of languages. (265:10).
- m. Do good to all people (265:11).
- n. Respect the rights of all people (265:12).
- o. Be honest, just, and faithful (265:13).

- What is your attitude toward district budget assessments and United Stewardship Fund (USF) assessments of the General Church?
- How will you work for 100% assessment payment in the churches you pastor?
- To what extent do or will you promote prayer support and giving to the missionary causes of The Wesleyan Church?
- How long have you been faithful in the storehouse tithing of your personal income? (See Discipline 465.)
- What should be the relationship between the local pastor and her/his district superintendent?
- Are your church membership and constituency records current?
- Explain any special difficulties you have had in maintaining a good relationship with the churches you have pastored?
- Are you current in your reporting to the district and its officials?
- If you were not clear as to the direct guidance of the Holy Spirit to a specific assignment, would you accept the direction and appointment of the district as the will of God and enter joyfully upon the assigned appointment?
- Are you willing, if needed, to take a small church and supplement your income by means of other employment?
- If you find it necessary to take other employment, will you work toward the goal of becoming full time in the ministry?
- Regarding your schedule:
 - a. Are there demands on your time that conflict with the Christian ministry?
 - b. What would you do if you faced conflicts with your primary ministry?
 - c. How many hours weekly is a reasonable workload for a consecrated pastor?
 - d. How many hours weekly should you spend with your spouse and family (if applicable)?
- Comment on your understanding of the biblical teaching on divorce, as well as on divorce and remarriage.
- Indicate below the social issue on which you have strong views and in which you might become actively involved in your ministry.

Each of the below will have a sliding scale of 6 points to choose from.

	Strong					Weak
a. Concern for the poor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. World hunger	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Racial equality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Women's rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Pornography	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Homosexuality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Abortion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Aging and the elderly	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Euthanasia	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. Substance abuse (alcohol, drugs, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

- Explain your views on those issues about which you feel very strongly and explain how they may affect your ministry.

Membership Commitments

- Can you practice and proclaim total abstinence as the appropriate response to abuse of such substances as alcohol, tobacco and drugs used for purposes other than proper medical treatment?
- What basis do you give for abstaining from membership in secret societies and lodges which are oath bound?
- Are you persuaded that the practice of homosexuality is contrary to scriptural teaching and that the church should boldly teach that a marriage between a man and a woman should be the only context for sexual activity?
- How should Christians use their leisure time?

- Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures are the fully inspired and inerrant written Word of God, and that they contain sufficiently all doctrine required for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? Comment on your understanding.
- What is your understanding of the Holy Trinity?
- What do you believe about the nature and deity of Jesus?
- Comment on the importance of Christ's resurrection to the gospel.
- What is your understanding of humankind--the origin, original nature and present nature of persons apart from Christ?
- Briefly state what you understand by the terms:
 - a. Atonement
 - b. Justification
 - c. Regeneration
- What is your position on the following subjects:
 - a. Free will
 - b. The security of the Christian
 - c. The possibility of complete apostasy
- What is the nature and work of the Holy Spirit?
- What do you understand to be the "gifts of the Spirit?" For what purpose are they given? To whom? Give scriptural evidence for your answer.
- What is your understanding of the "gift of tongues?" Is it the evidence of being filled with the Spirit?
- State what you believe to be the scriptural significance of baptism, mode(s) of baptism and who is eligible.
- What is the meaning and purpose of the Lord's Supper? Include in your answer who may administer and who may participate.
- What is your understanding of the Second Coming of Christ?
- What do you understand to be the destiny of the Christian, of the unbeliever, or of the person who has never heard the gospel?
- The Wesleyan Church believes God calls both men and women into ordained/commissioned ministry. Will you continue to support and advocate for this position? If not, explain.
- Do you believe and can you articulate the ordination and commissioning of men and women as biblically and theologically sound?

Please sign the following statement:

The information provided on this form is confidential. It is only for use by the Wesleyan District Board of Ministerial Development and Wesleyan Church officials, and will not be released or provided to any other parties.

I hereby freely give permission for the use of this information by the district and general officials of The Wesleyan Church, and waive my right to examine any confidential information about me provided by other persons. Further, I understand that credentialing by The Wesleyan Church is a privilege granted me, not a right that I claim. I hereby acknowledge the authority of the Church in granting credentials to those who, after thorough examination, are believed to have the gifts, fruit and call of God. Also, I understand that though I may complete all the education requirements for the credential, it does not guarantee my credentialing.

Reference Form Waiver

Statement of Intent:

The Credentialing Reference form is intended to assist, counsel, and help a candidate to develop a full potential for ministry. This means the goal is to make this form a tool to encourage growth and development in areas where weaknesses may exist. Everyone has areas of personal and professional life that call for concerted effort and improvement.

The information provided on this form is confidential. It is only for use by the Wesleyan District Board of Ministerial Development (DBMD) and Wesleyan Church officials and will not be released or provided to any other parties. I hereby freely give permission for the use of this information by the district and general officials of The Wesleyan Church and waive my right to examine any confidential information about me provided by other persons.

Guides & Helps to Holy Living

Please review the Guides and Helps to Holy Living then respond to the following:

Guides and Helps to Holy Living: <https://atlanticdistrict.com/ghhl>

- Understanding that all those serving in elected and credentialed office in the Wesleyan Church are required to adhere to these Guides and Helps to Holy Living, I hereby affirm my conviction to follow them carefully and conscientiously. With a desire to live a life of holiness guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit, I respectfully submit to the standards and principles contained therein.

Sexual Purity

Please review our Sexual Purity policy and respond to the following:

Sexual Purity & Freedom: <https://atlanticdistrict.com/pf/>

In the past 12 months, I have engaged in ...

- Sexual sin, such as pornography use or sexual acts outside marriage.
 Substance abuse, such as drunkenness or drug use.
 Other compulsive behaviours that are not compatible with my calling to ministry.