



**GLOBAL**  

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**UNIVERSITY**

**MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS ROADMAP**

# MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS ROADMAP

You feel called to minister at some level with your walk with Jesus. The calling is so strong you can't ignore it. But you also want to solidify your Christian work in some way. Global University offers you an opportunity to gain credentials for your ministry.

Our credentialing roadmap gives you a roadmap for your chosen path to a formalized ministry in the Assemblies of God Church.

## Answer Two Questions First

Before reading our credentialing roadmap, it's important to answer two fundamental questions. They will help you decide what level of education you may need to enter into ministry work.



**CERTIFICATE OF MINISTRY**



**MINISTRY LICENSE**



**ORDINATION**



## **HOW MUCH TIME DO YOU INTEND TO DEVOTE TO MINISTRY WORK?**

If you plan to teach Sunday school every weekend, assist with a youth pastor, or help with prayer services, you may not require much preparation or certification. A basic understanding of the tenets of Christianity would suffice for this kind of ministry.


You will likely need more extensive training if you want to devote the rest of your life to living Christian ideals while leading a congregation or community of believers. Rather than a specific ministry to a smaller group of believers, like a single Sunday school class, a larger group with varying questions and concerns will need a solid leader to guide them in their walk with the Lord.



## WHO DO YOU INTEND TO MINISTER WITH?

You will likely have a supervisor who assesses your ministry. For work in your local church, your supervisor is probably a church pastor. The mission coordinator will likely oversee you when you go on a mission trip. A formalized church leader, like a deacon, reports to the pastor. Meanwhile, a pastor is elected by the congregation after meeting the requirements for credentialing as set forth by each district council.

The Assemblies of God church recognizes certifications from Global University as valid credentialing for certain levels of ministry work as outlined in its Constitution and Bylaws.

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a rolled-up document over an open book. The person is wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the book and the person's hands. The overall image has a blue tint.


**In general, all three types of credentials will require different levels of education.**

## **MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS ROADMAP**

The Assemblies of God offers three levels of credentials for those called to ministry and a life of service. We will outline the three levels here and the corresponding programs at Global University to formalize that ministry work. Remember that each district sets the requirements for working in a formalized setting while the General Council Credentials Committee issues ministerial credentials.



# CERTIFICATE OF MINISTRY



**A certificate is ideal for helpers in gospel work who devote part of their time to Christian ministry. People with a certificate are usually supervised by a pastor, as prescribed by a district council. For people called to be pastors, a Certificate of Ministry offers an excellent foundation to help determine if a full-time ministry is a viable next step. You will likely have a layperson's role in your local church.**

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## **BEREAN SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE**

Start with a Level One Ministerial Certificate, giving you a working knowledge of Bible study methods, New Testament content, and Pentecostal doctrine. A Bible and Doctrine Diploma can also help with more advanced training. If you enroll in the Ministerial Studies with Leadership Honors Diploma, you will also have a mentor within your church to help guide you toward a more prominent role.

## **UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOL OF BIBLE AND THEOLOGY**

Certificate programs in the undergraduate school give you knowledge in specific subject matters, such as Christian education, intercultural studies, theology, or general education.

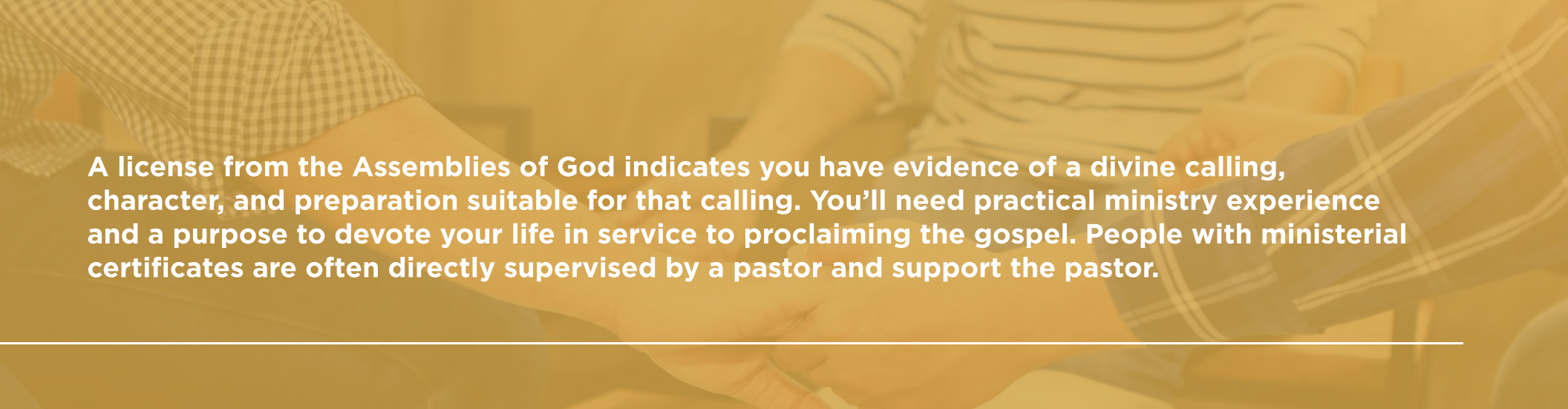
## **ROLES MAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:**

- Sunday School Teacher
- Small Group Leader
- Greeter
- Prayer Group Leader
- Coordinator for various church programs, such as publicity, marketing, food, camps, outreach, missions, music, volunteers, prayer, and more.



# MINISTRY LICENSE





A license from the Assemblies of God indicates you have evidence of a divine calling, character, and preparation suitable for that calling. You'll need practical ministry experience and a purpose to devote your life in service to proclaiming the gospel. People with ministerial certificates are often directly supervised by a pastor and support the pastor.

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## **BEREAN SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE**

After the introductory certificate, a Level Two Ministerial Certificate gives you mastery of specific Bible content, theology, and ministry skills.

## **UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOL OF BIBLE AND THEOLOGY**

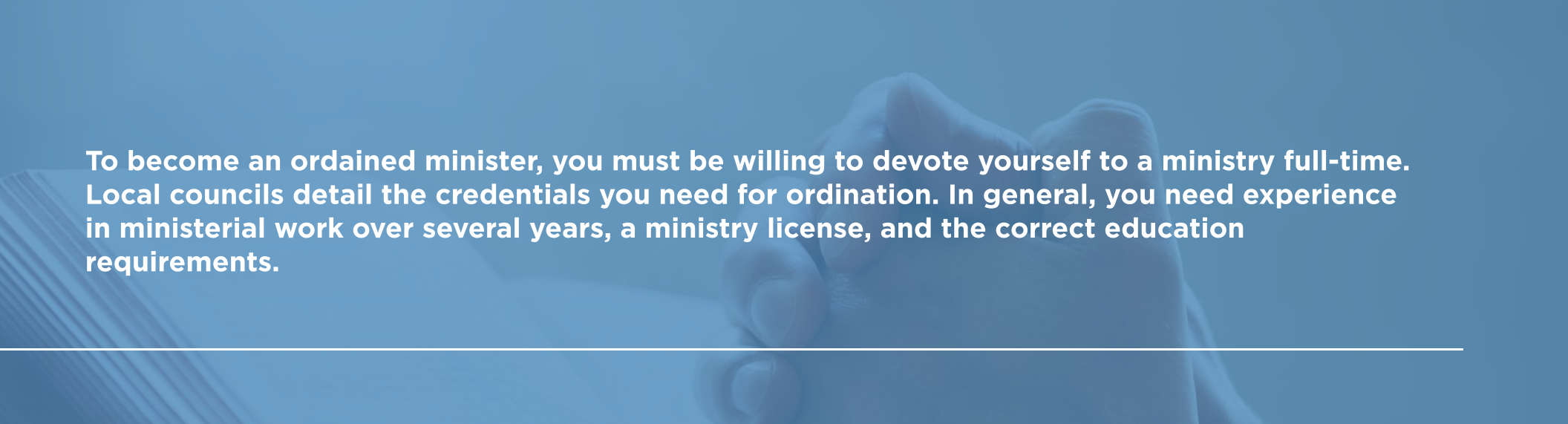
As you progress through your undergraduate work to a three- or four-year degree, you may earn a Ministries License from a local council on your way to becoming an ordained minister. Programs in Bible and theology, Christian Education, and Intercultural Studies prepare you for different yet essential roles in the church, whether you want to continue your ministry full-time or settle into one of these roles.

## **ROLES MAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:**

- Deacon
- Preacher
- Chaplain
- Missions Leader
- Teacher
- Worship Leader
- Music Leader
- Pastoral Counselor



# ORDINATION



To become an ordained minister, you must be willing to devote yourself to a ministry full-time. Local councils detail the credentials you need for ordination. In general, you need experience in ministerial work over several years, a ministry license, and the correct education requirements.

### **BEREAN SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE LEVEL THREE MINISTERIAL CERTIFICATE**

After earning the Level Two Ministerial Certificate, this certificate means you should have met the academic requirements to apply for ordained minister status in the Assemblies of God Church. The goal will be to serve as a leader in the church.

### **UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOL OF BIBLE AND THEOLOGY**

Earning a four-year or three-year degree prepares you for full-time ministry work. Depending on your district council, this degree may lead to an ordained minister role as the leader of a church or a program.

### **ROLES MAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:**

- Pastor
- Senior Pastor
- Assistant Pastor
- Youth Pastor
- Mission Church Pastor
- Teacher
- Pastoral Counselor

## ADVANCED ROLES

Graduate School of Theology provides advanced, in-depth, specialized study of the Bible and related subjects. Post-baccalaureate and master's degrees give you advanced knowledge in biblical studies, ministerial studies, biblical languages, and Christian ministry. Graduate certificates that specialize in certain topics can help you grow in your current role as a ministerial leader.

Some of these roles are outside the church's authority to grant you specific credentials for jobs, such as teaching at private schools or universities outside the Assemblies of God Church.

### ROLES MAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- Pastoral counselor
- Church administrator
- Teacher in a private or Christian school setting
- Instructor at a Bible institute or other school of higher learning
- Administrator at a private school or college
- Preacher
- Writer

