LOS ANGELES DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE BOARD OF MINISTRY

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Our Purpose

The purpose of the District Board of Ministry (BOM) is to aid and guide all candidates on the Los Angeles District in preparation for the various forms of ministry. This board is charged with the task of fostering continuing education on the district for ordained ministers. A summary of the duties of the DBM is found in Manual 228 and 230.2-31.4

Church of the Nazarene Ministerial Course of Study (COS)

There is a specific Ministerial Course of Study required by Clergy Development (the overseeing agency of the Church of the Nazarene) as a part of, or in addition to, other college work, based on a specific plan to ensure competency in a number of areas. There 24 courses or areas of training and education which may be completed at an accredited college, Bible college, seminary, online through Nazarene Bible College, or from our own Los Angeles District Training Center (a member of the Nazarene Bible College Alliance for Ministry Education). To enroll in the Course of Study, contact the Secretary of Ministerial Studies and submit transcripts of all college undergraduate and graduate work.

Course Requirements

Course requirements may vary somewhat depending on the mode of education and whether the minister-in-training is on the Elder track or Deacon track. Sections 428-429 in the Church of the Nazarene Manual describe the differences between the orders of Elder and Deacon (available online at www.nazarene.org/files/docs/Manual2005_09.pdf). Sections 403-423 describe the various ministry roles.

Candidates applying for a District License must have completed a minimum of six (6) verified courses (including the course History and Polity of the Church of the Nazarene), must have held a local license for a minimum of one (1) year and must receive a recommendation from their local church board.

A minimum of two courses must be completed in each subsequent year (verified by transcripts) to qualify for renewal of district license. The course of study must be completed within 10 years from the granting of the first district license, or the student will be dropped from enrollment with the DBM. (Manual 427.4) All coursework must be reported by the student to the Secretary of Ministerial Studies as soon as the course is completed, and verified by transcripts annually prior to the renewal interview.

During his/her time of holding a district license, each licensee and their spouse is expected to attend a **Ministerial Candidate Weekend** at Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego in the fall. The event, sponsored by the Center for Pastoral Leadership as a part of the Southwest Region Ministerial Assessment Initiative, is a requirement that must be met before ordination. Transcripts for coursework in progress at the time of the interview, or for which the student is enrolled, should be sent to the Secretary no later than **one month prior** to District Assembly each year in order to receive consideration in that assembly year.

Additional Requirements

In addition to completing the Course of Study, it is necessary to have **no less than three years consecutive and current full time experience as a senior pastor, or four years full-time as an associate (longer, if part-time),** kinds of ministry experiences (preaching, teaching, counseling, administration, etc.) that have been included in ministry. Non-paid ministry experience may accrue toward ministry requirement. However, it must -the candidate - or part-time position (even though unpaid), must have a job description, and must be expected to fulfill specific duties within the church under the direct supervision of the pastor or another staff person. It is important, if the position is pro-bono, that the candidate keeps an accurate log of the kinds of ministry performed, the typical hours per week, etc.

It is required by the **Manual** that a candidate must have held the District License for no less than three years prior to ordination.