

Request for Consideration of Return/Restoration of Credential

The **Kansas City District of the Church of the Nazarene** provides processes of ministerial rehabilitation and possible return or restoration of ordination credentials. To petition to be admitted to this process please complete the following document. Your completed and signed request should be submitted to the District Office.

The following petition represents only your request to be considered for return or restoration of ordination credential. You will be notified of the decision of the Kansas City District Ministerial Credentials Board to grant or deny your request for consideration. If your request for consideration is granted, the Kansas City District will initiate a process in accordance with all policies and procedures provided by the appropriate edition of the Manual of the Church of the Nazarene.

Please complete all of the following.

Your present local church membership: _____

Your current pastor: _____

Please attach a letter of reference from your pastor.

The letter should certify your appropriate participation in the congregation.

Date your credential was filed/resigned/surrendered: _____

Please check and complete the appropriate sections.

Filed:

“The status of the credential of a member of the clergy in good standing who, because of inactivity in the ministry, has voluntarily temporarily given up the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of being a member of the clergy by filing his or her credential with the General Secretary. A person who files his or her credential remains a member of the clergy and may have the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of being a member of the clergy reinstated by requesting that his or her credential be returned, in accordance with Manual paragraph 435.2.”
(Manual, paragraph 433)

- I am currently an ordained minister in good standing with my credential filed in the Kansas City District.

- I understand that the decision to return my credential will be made by action of the District Assembly where it was filed, provided that the return has been recommended by the District Superintendent and the District Advisory Board.
(Manual, paragraph 435.2)

Please give a brief description of the circumstances under which the action to file your credential was taken.

A petitioner for return of a filed credential may proceed to FINAL SECTION.

Resigned:

“The status of the credential of clergy in good standing who, for personal reasons, have decided they no longer wish to be considered as ministers, and give up the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of being members of the clergy to become laypersons on a permanent basis. The person who resigns is no longer a member of the clergy. The rights, privileges, and responsibilities of being the clergy may be reinstated, in accordance with Manual paragraph 435.3.” (Manual, paragraph 433)

- I understand that the restoration of my credential would be through positive action of the District Assembly following my submission of the Ordination/Recognition Questionnaire, my reaffirming the vows of ministry, examination by and favorable recommendation of the District Ministerial Credentials Board, and upon approval by the General Superintendent in jurisdiction. (Manual, paragraph 435.3)

Please give a brief description of the circumstances under which the action to resign your credential was taken.

A petitioner for return of a resigned credential may proceed to FINAL SECTION.

Surrendered:

“The status of the credential of a member of the clergy who, because of misconduct, accusations, confessions, result of action by a board of discipline or voluntary action for any reason other than inactivity in the ministry has been deprived of the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of the clergy. The person who surrenders his or her credential is still a member of the clergy, under discipline. The rights, privileges, and responsibilities of the clergy may be restored.” (Manual paragraph 433)

- I am prepared spiritually, with true repentance, a deep sense of personal guilt, and a time-proven change of conduct, to enter into a process of rehabilitation and possible restoration as directed by the Kansas City District. (Manual, paragraphs 435.5, 435.6)

- I understand that action to restore my credential involves: (Manual, paragraph 435.7)
 1. Approval of the District Superintendent
 2. Approval of the District Ministerial Credentials Board
 3. Two-thirds approval of the District Advisory Board
 4. Action by the Board of General Superintendents

NOTE: A request for consideration of return of surrendered credential requires a second letter of reference in addition to the required letter from your current pastor.

Please give a brief description of the circumstances under which the action to surrender your credential was taken.

All requests other than credential surrendered because of sexual misconduct may proceed to FINAL SECTION.

All requests related to credential surrendered because of sexual misconduct must complete the following group of items.

- I understand that Manual paragraph 435.7 includes the following:
“In the event the member of the clergy has committed sexual misconduct, the member of the clergy shall not be eligible to apply for restoration until four years have passed. A member of the clergy who has lost good standing as a result of sexual misconduct, must satisfactorily progress on a prescribed plan for rehabilitation for a minimum of four years, before good standing may be restored.”

Please check the appropriate response:

If so required are you prepared to willingly cooperate with a prescribed plan of rehabilitation for a minimum of four years? Yes No

Does your current situation include being presently married to the person who was the other party in the incident(s) that necessitated the submission of your ministerial credential? Yes No

Comment: *(optional)*

- I have read Manual paragraph 435.8, as follows:
“Because some types of misconduct, such as sexual misconduct involving children or sexual misconduct of a homosexual nature, are rarely the result of a one time moral lapse, individuals who are guilty of sexual misconduct that involves a high probability of repeated misconduct should not be restored to good standing.”
- This paragraph applies to my situation.
- This paragraph does not apply to my situation.

FINAL SECTION

- I acknowledge that I have read the appropriate Manual paragraph(s) (i.e. 435.2, 435.3, 433) corresponding to my credential status.

- I have answered all the above to the best of my recollection. I understand that this document represents my request only, and that its reception by the Kansas City District of the Church of the Nazarene does not obligate the District to return/restore my credential.

Other comments:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

E-mail: _____