



ORDINATION CREDENTIAL APPLICATION

Date of Application: _____

This BFI Ordination Credential Application must be filled out and submitted in duplicate with a one-time USD \$20.00 application fee, plus a current photograph of the applicant. The Ministerial Reference Form on pages 10 and 11 of this application kit is required to be sent to the BFI Office by TWO qualified, ordained pastoral ministers with whom the applicant is acquainted. The forms will be held confidentially in our files. Please type or print all information.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Sex: _____ Contact Phone(s): Res: _____ Cell: _____

Marital Status (please circle one): Single Married Widowed Divorced

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Please provide a brief educational resume. Of great importance is to list any seminars, conferences, ministerial help classes, ministry-related programs or courses in which you have participated or attended.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Are you presently under the authority and oversight of a local church? _____

Name of Pastor(s): _____

Name and Address of Local Church: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Phone(s): Res: _____ Church: _____ Cell: _____

CURRENT MINISTERIAL STATUS

Your current status (please circle): ORDAINED LICENSED GOSPEL WORKER

Have you previously held Ministerial Credentials? (please circle): YES NO

If YES, fill in the following:

Type of credentials held: _____

Original date of credentials: _____

Church or Organization: _____

In what field of ministry are you presently engaged? _____

ADDITIONAL

For which credential category are you applying? (please circle)

PASTOR TEACHER EVANGELIST OTHER

Attached to this application form on pages 4 through 9 you will find a copy of BFI's Statement of Beliefs, Constitution and Bylaws. Please read through them thoroughly.

Are you in agreement with Bethel Fellowship International's Statement of Beliefs, Constitution and Bylaws?

_____ YES _____ NO

Your full-name signature here: _____

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Both husbands and wives may apply for BFI credentials, however, both the husband and the wife must complete the application and provide two references.

Upon approval of your application, the proper credential (ordination or license) will be issued. There will be an annual fee for carrying BFI credentials.

(Single) Annual Fee USD \$50.00

(Husband-Wife) Annual Fee USD \$75.00

Upon completion and re-checking this application, please send it to the address below. Do not forget to include the required current photograph and the USD \$20.00 application fee.

Floyd Earlywine, President
Bethel Fellowship International, Inc.
Credential-License Office
P O Box 24
Orondo WA 98843
USA

Any questions you may have regarding this application may be addressed by calling or FAXING the BFI Credential-License Office at: (509) 293-5484. From outside the United States, call/FAX Country Code 1 followed by 509-293-5484.

The following pages of this application kit include the BFI Statement of Beliefs, Constitution and Bylaws and the Ministerial Reference Form. Please read through them thoroughly.



STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

We Believe:

- The Bible to be the Divine inspired Word of God, and accept the same as our infallible guide in all matters of faith and practice.
- In the One true Self-existent, Eternal, Omnipotent, Omnipresent, and Immutable Triune God, Creator of heaven and earth.
- In the pre-existence and virgin birth of the Lord Jesus Christ, His working of miracles, His sacrificial death, His burial and literal resurrection and translation to glory.
- In the blood of Jesus Christ as the complete atonement for sin, and for the destruction of every work of Satan.
- In the new birth for every believer. *“Ye must be born again.”* John 3:3.
- In divine healing found in the atonement. *“By whose stripes ye were healed.”* I Peter 2:24.
- In water baptism by immersion. *“Buried with Him by baptism,”* in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, which is The LORD Jesus Christ. A triune God with a triune name.
- In the Baptism with the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4.
- In Heaven and Hell, two resurrections, the first of the righteous, and the second of the ungodly.
- In holy living as the standard of Christian experience. *“Crucified with Christ.”* Gal. 2:20; 5:24.

and further:

- In the perfection of the church, the marriage of the Lamb and the casting down and binding of Satan.
- In the second pre-millennial coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- In the purging of the earth for the establishment of the kingdom and the one-thousand year reign of Christ and His church, followed by the final judgment.



CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Article I

NAME

The name of the corporation shall be **Bethel Fellowship International Inc.**, hereafter referred to as BFI in this document.

Article II

NATURE OF THE FELLOWSHIP

Section I

BFI is ministerial in function and not legally binding in nature, but is solely a medium through which church ministries may work harmoniously in co-operation with each other, promoting the work and objects set forth in these bylaws. It is defined not as governmental but as relational, not congregational but personal. It shall recognize the sovereignty of the churches under one sovereign, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Section II

BFI is designed to only carry out those ministries and services which churches cannot easily or conveniently provide for themselves. Each church will be free to carry on their own program and vision.

Section III

Being international in character BFI may be extended to the country, any country, in the world. Its recognition of the headship of Christ, and commitment to the whole body of Christ worldwide provides privilege of an open communion.

Article III

PURPOSE

The purposes for which this corporation is formed are:

1. To be a living expression of Christ in this world, through a special sense of unity and kinship amongst ministries who have moved to form a viable relationship with each other.

2. To assume and share the responsibility of fulfilling the Great Commission.
3. To promote fellowship among members of the Body of Christ.
4. To provide means and ways of services which will edify, encourage, and enlarge ministries which are associated with local churches.

Article IV

MEMBERSHIP

All ministers, regardless of denomination, which believe in the principles, nature, and purpose of BFI may make application to become a part of the Fellowship. All applications for membership in the Fellowship body shall be submitted for approval by the Credential Committee. Ordained and licensed ministers shall be so recognized as qualifying for membership in the BFI body. In all its business sessions the voting body shall be composed of members in good standing. Names of all members will be published in an annual directory and made available to each member.

Article V

FINANCES

Membership fees shall be required for the licensing and credential holders of the Fellowship with the exception of members 65 years or older, and overseas missionaries. In carrying on the work and efforts of BFI, it is recognized that finances are necessary. We therefore encourage and recommend that ministers and churches do their part to support the Fellowship by such means as they voluntarily choose.

All fees for licensing and credential holders and the expenditure of funds are set by the officers of the Fellowship.

Article VI

LICENSING AND ORDINATION OF MINISTERS

Section I Qualifications for ministerial licensing

- a. Called of God.
- b. Applicant shall subscribe to the scriptural standards set forth in I Tim. 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9 while embracing the basic tenants of faith of BFI.
- c. Submit a letter of recommendation by a local pastor, along with 2 (two) character references.
- d. Experience one year or more in practical ministry under a seasoned minister. Bible School is especially recommended for those 25 years or younger.
- e. The above conditions can be altered by special arrangement of the Credential Committee.

Section II Ministerial Credentials.

A. Qualifications:

1. Previously licensed by BFI, unless the applicant is transferring from another recognized accepted denomination or church.
2. Completion of a recognized basic training course i.e. Bible College, Seminary, etc., or 5 (five) years experience of practical service under authority in a seasoned ministry.
3. Must have demonstrated the validity of their calling, both under the local church leadership and leadership of BFI.
4. Willingness to receive counsel from the leadership of the Fellowship and give an annual report of accountable Christian service.

B. Procedure

1. Submit application form which will be reviewed for approval by the Credential Committee.
2. Upon acceptance for ordination the Chairman of the Fellowship shall plan a special Presbytery service for the purpose of ordaining candidates for the ministry. Ministers of the Fellowship shall be invited to be present.
3. The Fellowship shall present every ordained minister with a certificate of ordination and an annual Credential Card.

D. Cancellation and Withdrawal.

1. Decisions made to cancel or withdraw any credential issued shall be reached by a special meeting of the Credential Committee and officers of the Fellowship, called for that purpose.
2. Credentials shall be withdrawn for the following, with charges substantiated by the mouth of two or more witnesses. (I Tim. 5:19)
 - a. Substantiated charges of immorality.
 - b. Departure from basic bible doctrine.
 - c. Causing strife or division in the body of Christ.
 - d. Unbecoming attitudes towards other fellowship ministers.
3. Credentials may also be withdrawn due to completion of ministry assignment or inactive ministry for more than one year, with the exception of retirement or for medical reasons.
4. Credentials may also be voluntarily withdrawn by the credential holder by written notice to the leadership of BFI Inc.

Article VII

HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

Section I Purpose

- A. The purpose of the HMD shall be to assist in the establishing of new pioneer works and other small churches that are not self sufficient in areas not presently served by existing BFI churches.

Section II Committee Officers.

- A. The HMD shall be administered by a committee of four persons elected from the active credential membership of BFI Inc.
- B. Election of these officers shall take place at the annual Fellowship Business Meeting from the floor by a 2/3 majority. Each shall serve for a period of three years, with successive re-election permissible.
- C. The members of this committee shall annually elect a chairman within the committee following each annual Fellowship Business Meeting.

Section III Finance

- A. All cooperating Fellowship churches are encouraged to support the HMD through free will offerings, special fund raisers or through other sources deemed acceptable to each local Pastor.
- B. Each minister holding current credentials with BFI is encouraged to contribute \$5.00, or more, each month, as an ongoing source for growth.
- C. Disbursement of funds shall be made upon approval of application to HMD and will be designated for the following needs:
 - (1) Procuring of personal property items such as: Chairs, piano, song books, Sunday School literature and supplies, and other such related items.
 - (2) The purchasing or construction of real property, qualified only by the present financial strength of the HMD at the time of application subject to the approval of the appropriate officers of BFI..
 - (3) Short term financial assistance will be considered for a ministers personal support.
 - (4) Should any work fail to continue in operation and face disillusionment, the accumulated funds granted for personal or real property itself shall revert back into the ownership of the HMD.

Section IV Application

- A. Requests for assistance should be made in writing to the HMD by filling out and sending in an application form.
- B. Anyone who is a minister in good standing with BFI shall be eligible to submit an application.
- C. It is expected that any work which receives financial assistance, remain affiliated and in close fellowship with BFI.

Section V Administration

- A. The HMD shall have the responsibility to receive, review, evaluate, approve or disapprove all applications for assistance. Any approval for continual disbursements of monthly funds shall be reviewed at least annually at the Fellowship Business meeting.
- B. Only in cases where BFI has received a donation of property which includes church membership or initiates the birthing of a new work, will it have direct oversight in the internal affairs of that church. The process of seeing that work become autonomous shall be as follow:
- (1) In it's infancy, a missions church with its said properties shall be governed by its pastor and a committee of ordained ministers (2 or more) selected by the officers of the Fellowship. They shall take the place of the local church elders and deacons until such are available. The Pastor shall be accountable, for financial assistance received, to the HMD and the Fellowship leadership.
 - (2) Once a Home Missions church is self-supporting, by attending to its own finances and the support of its Pastor for at least one year, it is recommended that the local Pastor have in place his Elders and Deacons. Any assets that have been held in the name of BFI Inc. shall be turned over to the local church corporation in keeping with the Articles of Constitution and Bylaws of BFI. The Pastor should be ordained with the Fellowship by this time.

Article VIII

FOREIGN MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

A missionary department shall be established by BFI for the purpose of gathering and making available to the members of the Fellowship accurate information concerning all phases of missionary activity, and to seek ways to further the cause of world missionary endeavor.

Article IX

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The annual Business Meeting will be held once a year at the Ministers Leadership Conference. Fellowship administration business on the floor should be kept at a minimum, in order that the major part of the time may be given to spiritual ministrations. Officers of the Fellowship, Credential Committee, and other committee members shall be elected at the Annual Business Meeting.

MINISTER'S REFERENCE FORM



Please fill out this Ministers Reference Form and return to the address below for processing.

Bethel Fellowship International
 Attn: Credential-License Office
 Post Office Box 24
 Orondo WA 98843
 Tel/FAX: (509) 293-5484

This Ministers Reference is submitted by:

Name: _____

Church: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

To Whom It May Concern:

_____ has made application for ministerial recognition with Bethel Fellowship International, Inc (BFI). BFI is referred to you as one acquainted with the applicant and able to express a trustworthy opinion regarding the applicant's qualifications and character to fill the sacred trust of Minister of The Gospel. We value your judgement and will keep all records confidential. Please answer the following questions.

1. How well have you know the applicant? _____ Personally _____ Casually

2. Are you related to the applicant? _____ Yes _____ No

3. How frequently does the applicant attend church?

_____ Regularly _____ Occasionally _____ Seldom _____ Don't know

4. How would you describe the applicant's marriage?

_____ Very well adjusted _____ Well adjusted _____ Adjusted

_____ Strained _____ Very strained _____ Don't know

5. How would you describe the applicant's children?

_____ Well behaved _____ Average _____ Poorly behaved

6. If you assigned the applicant responsibilities, what response would you expect from him / her? Circle the appropriate number on the scale below.

	Very		Not very		Don't know
Teachable	1	2	3	4	5 _____

Loyal	1	2	3	4	5	_____
Sincere	1	2	3	4	5	_____
Dependable	1	2	3	4	5	_____
Inspires Others	1	2	3	4	5	_____
Capable	1	2	3	4	5	_____
Spirituality	1	2	3	4	5	_____

7. Was the applicant's call to the ministry evident to you? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, how? _____

8. Please circle all the words below which you believe accurately describe the applicant.

- | | | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| Mature | Loving | Impatient | Modest | Trustworthy |
| Kind | Selfish | Secure | Insecure | Compassionate |
| Nervous | Impulsive | Tactful | Angry | Considerate |
| Abrasive | Gentle | Patient | Motivated | |

9. Would you, without hesitation, recommend the applicant be granted credentials for ministry?

_____ Yes _____ With reservation _____ No _____ Don't know

10. Further comments: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Additional writing space for MINISTERS REFERENCE FORM