

Requirements for Standing

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Oklahoma
Effective 10-10-2022

Ministers who are Active or Retired Active or clergy seeking transfer of credentials must do and report the following:

1. Perform faithfully the duties of a minister.
2. Participate in regular study, growth and renewal.¹
 - A. Complete and Report 16 hours of Continuing Education each year.
 - B. Complete a Healthy Boundaries training program every three years.
3. Maintain relations with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and hold membership in a recognized Oklahoma Disciples of Christ congregation where feasible.
4. Adhere to the Ministerial Code of Ethics of the Christian Church.²
5. Seek annual certification.
6. Meet the personal qualifications for admission to the Order of Ministry.³
7. Make Personal Disclosures required on the Annual Request for Standing Form.
8. Sign the Form

Retired Inactive's must:

1. Hold membership in a recognized Oklahoma Disciples congregation where feasible.
2. Adhere to the Ministerial Code of Ethics.
3. Sign the Form

¹ For details please refer to “Regional Policy regarding Continuing Education Requirements to Maintain Ministerial Standing” and “Ministerial Ethics Training, Healthy Boundaries Required to maintain Ministerial Standing.” Both documents can be found at <https://okdisciples.org/clergy/continuing-education/>

² For a copy of the Ministerial Code of Ethics see <https://okdisciples.org/clergy/journey-to-ministry>

³ For a copy of the “Personal Qualifications for the Order of Ministry” see the *Theological Foundations and Policies and Criteria for the Ordering of Ministry* at <https://okdisciples.org/clergy/journey-to-ministry>

Failure to Meet the Requirements for Standing

When a minister fails to fulfill the Requirements for Standing, the Commission on Clergy shall approve a **Temporary Administrative Removal of Standing**. This removal of standing can be remedied by completing missing Requirements for Standing. Once standing is returned, the minister will not need to make notification of these actions on a disclosure form.

When the action is taken to temporarily remove standing, the Regional Minister shall send a letter indicating that standing has been removed, citing reason(s) for the removal of standing, and clarify how the minister can have standing reinstated. Once deficiencies are completed and documented evidence of correction is received, the Regional Minister and the Chair of the Commission will take steps to renew the standing, and provide timely documentation to the minister.

Questions?

Contact a member of our Regional Staff with questions you may have about any of these requirements.