

## **Ministerial Licensure & Ordination Requirements**

Following are the listed guidelines for those who may seek Ministerial License and Ordination through Church Beyond Walls International.... It is understood that students who are enrolled in Southwest Louisiana Bible Institute (SWLBI) may pursue degree certification, without seeking or desiring licensure or ordination. However, no licensure or ordination for ministry will be considered through SWLBI – because our school holds no jurisdiction for ministerial licensure. On the other hand, in order to obtain Ministerial License and Ordination through Church Beyond Walls International, the potential applicant will have to satisfactorily complete the educational requirements through SWBI. The Board may consider ministerial licensure for those who can submit supporting documentation for completion of biblical educational requirements through another educational institution with the additional listed requirements below. Servant Leaders who complete their educational requirements through SWLBI and aspire licensure and ordination will be required to meet the following:

1. Complete the “Requirements & Application” for enrollment in SWLBI as listed on the school web-site.
2. Submit in writing a desire for ministerial licensure or ordination no less than one (1) year before completion of course requirements for licensure or ordination. Request will include following-
  - A letter no less than 5 typed pages detailing why the Servant Leader seeks licensure and ordination. (This letter will allow the Board will attempt to determine the extent of the applicants call to ministry)
  - Produce 3 letters of recommendation from 1. Clergy, 2. Community or Civic Leader, 3. A disinterested person that has known the Servant Leader for more than 5 years. (Note: These recommendations will need to be mailed to the board)
  - A person connected within the Servant Leaders family may accompany them during the board interview process, but will not be allowed to set in the interview.
  - The accompaniment of the Servant Leader’s Pastor at the interview, or through phone conference for the interview board.
3. To gain Ministerial Licensure the individual Ministry Servant Leader will have to complete the Associate Degree (2 year) course requirements as listed on SWLBI.

4. To gain Ministerial Ordination the individual Ministry Servant Leader will have to complete the Bachelor's Degree (4 year) course requirements as listed on SWLBI.
5. Both Licensure and Ordination – along with the completed courses will require the individual Ministry Servant Leader applicant to appear before an assigned board of Pastors.
6. The Servant Leader that seeks Licensure & Ordination through Church Beyond Walls International will need to demonstrate the following in writing, recommendations, and at their board interviews:
  - a. Time - No Servant Leader will be considered for ministerial licensure or ordination without faithful participation within the ministry of their local church. Sporadic or occasional participation and attendance does not reflect the heart of a Servant Leader who aspires next level ministry leadership.
  - b. Talent - The Servant Leader must be occupying their potential ministry office in some capacity by utilizing their gifts within the ministry that covers them, and demonstrate that they are utilizing their gifting under the oversight of their Senior Pastor or assigned leadership.
  - c. Treasure - The potential Servant Leader must be a faithful in demonstrating their submission to kingdom financing | stewardship by faithfully and consistently tithing at their given house of ministry.
7. Conflict- The given applicant must demonstrate that they have encountered, endured cases of conflict within the context of church culture, and handled it in a functional spiritual and biblical fashion.
8. Correction- The potential minister applicant must demonstrate that they are capable of receiving correction from their assigned ministry leader/s. The inability to receive constructive ministry correction disqualifies the potential applicant from being consider for the next level of ministry service.
9. Cooperation- The potential minister should be able to demonstrate that they can work and minister in various ministry settings - not restricted to their given faith or family culture.

The Servant Leader is expected to demonstrate that they can move beyond their own comfort zone/s and be effective in different ministry settings and serve in different environments.

10. Consensus- The given applicant and their Pastor must attend the Licensing & Ordination board. It is permissible that if their Pastor can-not attend, arrangements can be made to confer with the Pastor via phone, it is the responsibility of the applicant to make arrangements for the interview via phone by conference calling.
11. Connection- The given applicant can NOT be a novice, and must be connected to a New Testament Congregation serving faithfully while in good standing with no less than 2 years prior to submitting for License or Ordination.
12. Consistency- The given applicant will be required after submitting application for License or Ordination, to meet with their Senior Pastor no less than quarterly to receive instructive critique and evaluation leading towards the license or ordination ceremony.
13. Clean- The applicant must demonstrate a life of purity! No acceptations, specifically in respect to personal integrity and sexual morality. The failure to do so are grounds for revocation of application. Additionally, it is understood that future compromise especially in regards to personal integrity and sexual morality are grounds for revocation of license and/or ordination.

Note: A ministry fee may be assessed for the interviewing board, if so, this will only accommodate the basic expenses of the required Pastor's. Should a fee be assessed, the potential applicant will be informed in advanced. Should additional questions arise concerning license or ordination, they should be submitted in writing to the Senior Pastor who will convene the board.

Thank-you!