

Resolution 10

Requirements for Credentialing

1 WHEREAS, Historically, correspondence courses to fulfill educational requirements for
2 credentialing were offered almost exclusively through Global University, for
3 those not completing training through one of our AG-endorsed schools; and

4 WHEREAS, In recent years, a myriad of additional training programs such as district
5 schools of ministry, church-based Bible institutes, and digitized training
6 have been approved by the General Presbytery to educate applicants in
7 parallel ministry competencies; and

8 WHEREAS, The bylaws as presently written implies a credential applicant may test out
9 of a Global University course by taking the exam without studying the
10 course; and

11 WHEREAS, Rather than basing the training to just courses from Global University solely,
12 it seems prudent to name the required courses based on what the General
13 Presbytery approves rather than using Global University courses as the
14 metric or standard; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the General Council Bylaws, Article VII. MINISTRY, Section 2. Basic
16 Qualifications, paragraph h. Basic education requirements, pages 46–47
17 which reads:

18 **h. Basic education requirements.** No specific level of formal academic
19 achievement (diploma or degree) shall be a requirement for credentials; credential
20 applicants shall meet the following criteria:

21 (1) All applicants are required to be interviewed by the district Credentials
22 Committee and, in preparation for the interview, pass a standard exam approved by
23 the General Presbytery whereby they demonstrate knowledge of the Bible,
24 Assemblies of God doctrines, and ministerial practices, unless an exception is
25 granted by the General Council Credentials Committee or permitted by General
26 Presbytery policy; and either

27 (2) Successfully complete equivalent training to that indicated in
28 paragraph (3) below, preferably, in an endorsed Assemblies of God postsecondary
29 school; or in a seminary, college, Bible college, or school approved by the district
30 Credentials Committee consistent with criteria established by the General Council
31 Credentials Committee; or

1 (3) Successfully complete courses, prescribed by the General Presbytery,
2 offered in correspondence through Global University of the Assemblies of God, or
3 pass the final examinations in the prescribed courses; or

4 (4) Be recommended by a district Credentials Committee as qualifying for
5 credentials through self-study and ministerial experience. Such candidates shall
6 have a proven and fruitful ministry of substantial duration. Requests from a district
7 for such a candidate shall be presented to the General Council Credentials
8 Committee and may be granted on a case-by-case basis.

9 Be amended to read:

10 **h. Basic education requirements.** No specific level of formal academic
11 achievement (diploma or degree) shall be a requirement for credentials; credential
12 applicants shall meet the following criteria:

13 (1) All applicants are required to be interviewed by the district Credentials
14 Committee and, in preparation for the interview, pass a standard exam approved by
15 the General Presbytery whereby they demonstrate knowledge of the Bible,
16 Assemblies of God doctrines, and ministerial practices, unless an exception is
17 granted by the General Council Credentials Committee or permitted by General
18 Presbytery policy; and either

19 (2) Successfully complete equivalent training to that indicated in
20 paragraph (3) below, preferably, in an endorsed Assemblies of God postsecondary
21 school; or in a seminary, college, Bible college, or school approved by the district
22 Credentials Committee consistent with criteria established by the General Council
23 Credentials Committee; or

24 (3) Successfully complete courses, prescribed by the General Presbytery,
25 through General Presbytery-approved training programs that align with the
26 courses for each of the three levels of credentials; or ~~offered in correspondence~~
27 ~~through Global University of the Assemblies of God, or pass the final examinations~~
28 ~~in the prescribed courses;~~

29 (4) Be recommended by a district Credentials Committee as qualifying for
30 credentials through self-study and ministerial experience. Such candidates shall
31 have a proven and fruitful ministry of substantial duration. Requests from a district
32 for such a candidate shall be presented to the General Council Credentials
33 Committee and may be granted on a case-by-case basis.

Sponsor: General Presbytery

Presented _____
Amended _____
Referred _____
Adopted _____
Lost _____