

LIFELONG LEARNING

The excellence in ministry to which God calls ministers requires a lifetime of study and learning. Though the Bible remains constant, methods of understanding and communicating it are constantly changing. The theology of the church changes very little in a person's lifetime, but different emphases arise to meet the needs of a changing culture. To be a good steward of the ministry will require lifelong learning.

Manual 527.6 says, "Once a minister has fulfilled the requirements of a validated course of study for ministry, he or she will continue a pattern of lifelong learning to enhance the ministry to which God has called him or her. A minimum expectation is 20 hours of lifelong learning each year..."

A variety of brokers or providers of continuing education can help you fulfill the expectations stated in Manual 527.6. You may take a course or courses for lifelong learning credit at a college, university, or seminary. You may participate in lifelong learning events provided by Olivet Nazarene University, Nazarene Bible College, Nazarene Theological Seminary, or the Wisconsin District. Most hospitals and local or state mental health organizations provide continuing education opportunities that can be used to meet the annual lifelong learning requirement.

You'll now SELF-REPORT your lifelong learning hours via the Lifelong Learning Registry available from your computer, tablet or phone. See link below. By design, the global Lifelong Learning Registry invites you to *self-select* and *self-report* your participation in lifelong learning and is built on the assumption of your integrity and desire to serve effectively.

The Lifelong Learning Registry

Nazarene ministers have the opportunity to record and report their efforts to develop and maintain a pattern of lifelong learning to enhance the ministry to which God has called them.

The Registry allows ministers 24-hour access to their own lifelong learning record.

[Report Lifelong Learning Hours Here](#)

QUESTIONS

1. ***What constitutes a Lifelong Learning Hour?*** Generally, a Lifelong Learning Hour is one (1) 60-minute hour of engagement in a qualifying learning experience. For example, by participating in a qualifying 2-hour workshop a minister completes two hours of Lifelong Learning.
2. ***What kind of event or opportunity qualifies for Lifelong Learning Hours?*** Nazarene colleges and universities, regional and district offices, and the Global Ministry Center endeavor to provide quality Lifelong Learning opportunities to our ministers. However, there are a multitude of other opportunities that qualify for Lifelong Learning Hours, including online events (such as classes, webinars, live-streamed or archived conference sessions, etc.), classes or presentations

available for participation through video-conferencing, and face-to-face classes or special educational events (such as a preaching conference, or a session on pre-marital counseling presented by a community organization, etc.). You can also read Grace and Peace Magazine for up to 4 LLHs per year. A Lifelong Learning event does not have to be religious in nature; however, each learning opportunity in which a minister participates should contribute meaningfully to his or her overall development plan. Report your lifelong learning hours as pertaining to one of the following four categories.

Content – the biblical, theological, and historical knowledge necessary for ministry;

Competency – the development of skills for ministry;

Character – the strengthening and enriching of the minister as a person; and

Context – the deepening of the understanding of the ministry environment.

3. **How do I select a different language for the site?**

If you wish to view the site in a language other than the one you selected initially, you may select a language from the drop-down menu that appears at the bottom of each page of the site.

4. **What if I move to a different district?**

Moving to a different district does not mean your credential has been transferred! You will need to inform your current district of your new location (and remember, your local church membership determines which district has jurisdiction over your credential). Once you have changed local church membership and have been notified that your district has transferred your credential to your new district, you may update the district associated with your lifelong learning record by selecting "Account" from the menu options appearing at the top of each page. Simply choose your new district and then click the update button at the bottom of the page. Failure to update this information means your lifelong learning activity will not appear on reports to your new district!

5. **How do I update a change in my credential?**

To update a change in your credential (for example, if you were recently ordained), simply select "Account" from the menu options appearing at the top of each page. After making the change, be sure to click the update button at the bottom of the page.

6. **Will I still be able to login if I change my email address?**

Yes, if you continue using the email address associated to your password. However, it is best to update your email address (select "Account" from the menu options appearing at the top of each page, enter your new email address, and then click the Update button) so that communication with your district leaders and with the Lifelong Learning Registry office is not hindered.

7. **How do I update my account profile?**

Simply select "Account" from the menu options appearing at the top of each page. After making the change, be sure to click the update button at the bottom of the page.

8. Tips for adding a new lifelong learning event

- When possible, enter the full official title of the event
- Be sure the start and end dates are correct. Make sure you have selected an end date that is later than the start date!
- Provide enough description that someone other than yourself could read your entry and clearly understand the purpose and learning value of the activity.
- When it comes to reporting lifelong learning hours, become familiar with the reporting guidelines for unique learning opportunities.
- Many learning events touch on all four of the development areas: Content, Competency, Context, and Character. However, normally one or two areas are especially emphasized and it is best to select only those areas. When you download a report of your activity, you will be able to see at a glance whether your activity is balanced between these four development areas.

If you have any additional question, email wisconsindistrictoffice@gmail.com