

Southwestern Assemblies of God University (SAGU)

Memorandum of Understanding for Approved District Schools of Ministry and District Authorized Training Centers

Program

To award academic credit for specified equivalent courses to credentialed ministers of the Assemblies of God (AG) who have completed one or more levels of the educational requirements for ministerial credentials through an approved Assemblies of God (AG) District School of Ministry (D-SOM) or other district-authorized training centers, including but not limited to:

- Pathway Training (Trinity Life Center, Sacramento, CA).

Purpose

The Executive Presbytery of the General Council of the AG endorses various non-traditional pathways provided or affirmed by its district councils to meet the educational requirements for the various levels of ministerial credentials. Persons seeking ministerial credentials from an AG district or network, or credentialed ministers seeking advanced credentials, must provide documentation of the satisfactory completion of the educational requirements, pass a credentialing exam, and demonstrate capacity for spiritual leadership and viable ministry via an interview process.

SAGU recognizes the learning experience based on completion of the educational track and attainment of the specific level of ministerial credential. The academic credit awarded according to this policy provides incentive for credentialed ministers to continue their educational journeys to further enhance their ministry effectiveness.

Requesting Credit

SAGU offers two available paths for receiving credit from an approved AG District School of Ministry or other district-authorized training center. The path to be taken is determined by the degree the student will pursue while enrolled at SAGU.

1. **B.A.A.S. in General Ministry**—students pursuing this vocational degree can receive 12 hours of academic credit for every credential level completed and received through an approved district school of ministry (maximum 36 hours for completing all three credentialing levels through an approved D-SOM or other district-authorized training center).

PROCESS: The credit can be received by contacting the Dean of the College of Bible and Church Ministries for review of student record and approval of credit. Awarded credit is considered *Vocational credit* and is included as such in the degree program.

2. All other undergraduate degrees—students pursuing any other SAGU undergraduate degree program can receive up to 9 hours of academic credit for every credential level completed and received through an approved district school of ministry (maximum 27 hours for completing all three credentialing levels through an approved D-SOM or other district-authorized training center).

PROCESS: The credit can be received by contacting the Dean of the College of Bible and Church Ministries for review of student record and approval of credit. Awarded credit is considered *Special Ministries Credit* and is included among electives in the degree program.

In addition, all D-SOM students who qualify will be able to substitute other SAGU courses for certain SAGU degree requirements. Those who have completed the listed credential level through the aforementioned training programs will receive a waiver for the courses listed below:

CERTIFIED LEVEL

REL1133 *Authentic Christianity*

THE2333 *Pentecostal Doctrine and History*

LICENSED LEVEL

REL1153 *New Testament Literature* or REL1173 *Introduction to Biblical Literature

REL1163 *Old Testament Literature*

**to be determined according to degree requirements*

(note: Students pursuing the B.A. in Church Leadership with significant church leadership experience may be approved for a waiver of the required LDR2133 *Introduction to Leadership Internship*)

ORDAINED LEVEL

BIB1223 *The Church in Ministry and Mission*

(note: Students pursuing the B.A. in Church Leadership with significant church leadership experience may be approved for a waiver of the required LDR3133 *Leadership Internship II*)

Students who have completed multiple credentialing levels at an approved AG District School of Ministry or other district-authorized training center qualify for the waiver available to each level.

Contact

All inquiries concerning this program and the awarding of this credit can be directed to the College of Bible and Church Ministries Office of the Dean, 972.825.4825.