

Evangelical Free Church of America: Ministerial Credentials
Policy on Spiritual and Character Qualifications
Questionnaire for Spouse of a Married Leader or Close Friend of a Single Leader

Dear Spouse or Friend:

This questionnaire accompanies a longer version that your spouse or good friend will fill out in his or her application for a ministerial credential with The Evangelical Free Church of America. The elders of the church will also complete a questionnaire. These questionnaires seek to review and affirm your spouse's/friend's qualifications for a credential, namely, the biblical standards for church leaders.

The EFCA Board of Ministerial Standing understands that some of these questions are deeply personal and may be difficult to answer. Moreover, depending on one's personality and temperament, some individuals will tend to be overly sensitive to these matters, while other individuals will tend to be insufficiently sensitive. Then, too, some individuals will feel comfortable filling out this questionnaire; others would prefer to interact with someone in person. You have that option. Your spouse's/friend's questionnaire gives further information about the personal interview option.

The district superintendent and/or district credentialing committee will read your questionnaire and your spouse's or friend's and follow up with you if necessary. Our aim—through these questions, through supportive encouragement, and through practical resources for healing and change—is to help this leader be fully qualified for an EFCA credential.

Please return this form to your district office. It will be reviewed only by your district superintendent (or district credentialing representative) and/or the appropriate district credentialing committee. This step must be completed before your spouse or friend meets with the district credentialing committee for the oral credentialing examination. The affirmation of your spouse's or friend's qualifications for an EFCA credential will be included in his or her credentialing examination and sent to the EFCA Board of Ministerial Standing. After his or her credential is issued, this questionnaire (both electronic and any hard-copy versions, along with those supplied by your spouse or friend and the church leaders) will be destroyed.

If you have concerns about this questionnaire or the process it represents, we warmly invite you to contact the district superintendent or a member of the district credentialing committee.

Your district superintendent, district credentialing board, and
the EFCA Board of Ministerial Standing

General Affirmation

1. Explain briefly your support of your spouse's or friend's application for an EFCA ministerial credential. Include your observations and assessment of how his or her life aligns with biblical standards of character, knowledge, and skills. Is there any pattern of character, attitude, or actions that needs to be addressed in order for this person to flourish?

Family Health

2. Briefly describe how your spouse or friend manages the household well, relative to his or her overall family responsibilities. Include your observations of his or her relationship to you and, if you are the spouse and have children, to the family as a whole. If this person is single, include your observations about his or her balance with wholehearted work in the church family while investing in meaningful personal friendship with others.