

Stewardship Giving information

Credential Holders of the IFCA are expected to contribute and carry their respective share of the expenses of the General Council. This is a monthly contribution and is outlined in our Constitution and Bylaws and IFCA Policy Manual, which we have provided below.

Online Giving - <https://giving.ncsservices.org/App/Giving/ifcaministry>

Obligatory Stewardship Responsibilities Simplified.

Credential Holder Stewardship

- Ordained Minister (OM) - \$120.00 monthly
- Minister of the Gospel (MG) - \$100.00 monthly
- License to Preach (LP) - \$80.00 monthly
- Christian Worker (CW) - \$60.00 monthly

- Credential Renewal Fee: \$50.00 yearly

Special Rules and Accommodations

- *When two (2) spouses hold credentials, the lesser credential holder's obligation is reduced by 50%. This means that the spouse with the higher credentials (if applicable) pays the full amount and the spouse with the lesser credentials (if applicable) pays half the amount of the month stewardship.*
- *Inactive/retired/special circumstance ministers with limited or fixed incomes may be granted relief from set contribution amounts when proper protocol has been followed concerning their situation as defined by the policy manual but are encouraged to give as they are able.* Credential holders that meet these criteria should contact their District Overseer to inquire about a reduced stewardship obligation.
- Credential Holders who have been granted Missionary status or Missions Infusion status are not obligated to pay stewardship, as the National Missions Department (World Impact) pays the \$25 monthly stewardship on their behalf (regardless of their credential level). Those granted Missionary Status or Missions Infusion status who can afford to pay stewardship, are encouraged to do so.

Affiliated/Associated Church Stewardship

- *Each church shall contribute a minimum of \$2.00 per adult attendee per month. These contributions shall be based on each church's annual average Sunday adult attendance. Adults are considered attendees age 18 and above.*
- *Church contribution obligations are capped but not limited to \$1,000 per month*

IFCA Constitution and Bylaws

ARTICLE VI – MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 4 – FINANCIAL OBLIGATION

Each member must pay, within the time and on the conditions set by the Executive Board, the fees and assessments of the IFCA stewardship plan as set forth by the Board.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE VII – IFCA FINANCIAL POLICY

SECTION 1 – SOURCES

- A. There are, in general, the following sources of income open to the General Council:
 - a. Contributions from Credential Holders
 - i. The amount to be set by the Executive Board.
 - ii. When two (2) spouses hold credentials, the lesser credential holder's obligation is reduced by 50%.
 - iii. Inactive/retired/special circumstance ministers with limited or fixed incomes may be granted relief from set contribution amounts when proper protocol has been followed concerning their situation as defined by the policy manual, but are encouraged to give as they are able.
 - b. Contributions from Affiliated and Associated Churches
 - i. Each church shall contribute a minimum amount set by the Executive Board based on per year adult attendee per month.
 - ii. Churches shall base their contribution amounts on their annual average Sunday adult attendance. Adults are considered attendees age 18 and above. Churches shall report their average attendance to IFCA headquarters either annually or upon request.
 - iii. Church contribution obligations are capped but not limited to \$1,000 per month.

SECTION 2 – CONTRIBUTION AMOUNTS AND ENFORCEMENT

- A. The Executive Board shall periodically review whether contribution amounts are adequate to fund General Council and District operations. In the event a rate increase is deemed necessary, increase shall not exceed an average of 5% per year.
- B. The District Presbytery shall review situations and determine the appropriateness of waivers or adjustments to contribution amounts
- C. For individuals, sanctions employed may include, but are not limited to, the forfeiture of the right to actively participate or vote at National and District Councils, and/or the withholding of credential renewals. For churches, sanctions may include, but are not limited to, forfeiture of the right to send delegates to Convention councils.

SECTION 3 – BENEFITS OF CONTRIBUTORS

- A. A. The Executive Board shall retain the right to grant a variety of specific benefits to contributors in good standing. These benefits may be adjusted or changed as deemed appropriate.
- B. Individual contributions may be considered part of the donors' tithe and shall be tax deductible according to applicable laws.

SECTION 4 – ADMINISTRATION

- A. A. The above noted contributions from credential holders and churches shall fund both the National General Council general fund and various District general funds.
- B. B. Distribution of Collected Contributions
- C. IFCA Headquarters shall collect all contributions noted above and retain 50% in the National General fund.
- D. The remaining 50% of collected contributions shall be allocated to the various District Presbyteries in amounts proportionate to District size and need. District size is determined by the number of credential holders, churches and adult attendees within a district.
- E. The distribution allocation by District shall be set by the Executive Board.

The Executive Board shall periodically review the allocation percentages and retain the right to adjust the allocation percentages to Districts according to changes in size and need.

Policy Manual

IFCA Financial Policy

Section 1. Policy

The principle of cooperation underlies the financial policy. Each Credential Holder (Ordained, Minister of the Gospel, Licensed to Preach, Christian Worker) and each Affiliated/Associated church should be willing to carry their respective share of the expense of the General Council. The cooperative spirit will show itself by actual participation in the work and burden of the fellowship.

Section 2. Sources

1. **Credential Holders:** The standard practice is that each Ordained Minister shall contribute a minimum of \$110 per month; each Minister of the Gospel shall contribute a minimum of \$90 per month; each Licensed to Preach credential holder shall contribute a minimum of \$70 per month; each Christian Worker shall contribute a minimum of \$50 per month. When a spouse of a credential holder carries a credential with the IFCA, the lesser credential holder's monthly contribution obligation is reduced by 50%. Those credential holders who are zero givers will not have their credentials renewed. Those who give a partial monthly contribution are ineligible for District or National Offices unless arrangements have been made by the appropriate district due to financial hardship.
2. **Church Offerings:** Each church shall contribute a minimum of \$2.00 per adult attendee per month. These contribution amounts shall be based on each church's annual average Sunday adult attendance. Adults are considered attendees age 18 and above. These church contributions are to be capped but not limited to \$1,000.00. Those churches who give zero contributions shall forfeit the right to send any church delegates to convention.

Section 3. Participation

The Executive Board requires a contribution to the IFCA Financial Policy by all credential holders prior to the end of the calendar year. Said contributions must be recorded in the General Fund by December 31 of each year. If no contributions are received by that date, the pertinent district shall be informed that they are to withhold credentials from these non-contributors. If the situation is not corrected by March 31 of the following year, their credential shall be suspended. The suspended credential holder or minister must then re-apply for credentials.

Section 4. Administration

The above noted contributions from credential holders and churches shall fund both the National General Council general fund and the various District general funds.

- a. **Distribution of Contributions:** IFCA Headquarters shall collect all contributions noted above and retain 50% in the National general fund. The remaining 50% of collected contributions shall be allocated to the various District Presbyteries in the amount proportionate to District size and need. District size is determined by the number of credential holders, churches and adult attendees within a District.

The current distribution allocation by District is as follows: Northwestern District 30%; Eastern District 20%; New England District 15%; Niagara Mohawk District 15%; Great Lakes District 10%; Southern District 10%.

- b. **Review of Contribution Amounts:** The Executive Board shall periodically review the allocation percentages and retain the right to adjust the allocation percentages to Districts according to changes in size and need. In the event a rate increase is deemed necessary, the increase shall not exceed 5% per year.