

# New Clergy Award Initiative

## Northwest Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

### What is the New Clergy Award Initiative (NCAI)?

The NCAI provides \$50,000 to qualifying new clergy in the Northwest Texas Conference. This Award will be distributed to individuals in eight increasing installments over the course of seven years, beginning with the first year of full-time appointed service following date award is given. See table to the right for disbursement timeline.

Initial Disbursement (July 1 of first appointment year)	\$4500
After Year 1	\$5000
After Year 2	\$5500
After Year 3	\$6000
After Year 4	\$6500
After Year 5	\$7000
After Year 6	\$7500
After Year 7	\$8000

### Who is eligible to receive the NCAI?

New full-time Local Pastors and seminary students planning to serve churches in the Northwest Texas Conference will be considered for the NCAI. Each year the Northwest Texas Board of Ordained Ministry will select up to three recipients who exhibit a deep love for God and others, attention to spiritual growth, academic and professional competency, and self-motivation in the pursuit of God's call.

Applicant	Eligibility Timeline	Renewal Requirement
Full Time Local Pastor	Apply during <i>first year</i> of appointed service.	Continued appointment in good standing
Seminary Student/ Seminary Graduate	Apply up to three years prior to appointed service. (For example: Spring 2016 applicants may come from the 2016, 2017, or 2018 classes.)	Continued appointment in good standing

### How do eligible parties apply for the NCAI?

The NCAI application process includes references, essay questions, and a live interview. Background checks and financial disclosure will be routine for all applicants. Students who do not receive the Award may re-apply in subsequent years.

Applications must be submitted by January 31st of the year that the award is granted. Application and reference forms are available at [www.nwtxconf.org](http://www.nwtxconf.org)

All applicants will be notified by April 30 on whether they received the award or not.

# Checklist NWTX New Clergy Award Initiative

nctxconf.org | 806-762-0201

## **Application Form**

- Biographical Information
- Education Information
- Work History
- Financial Disclosure/Credit Check (Conference Office)
- Background Check Disclosure (Conference Office)

## **Essay Questions**

- Statement of Faith (Life Story, Faith Journey)
- Statement of Pastoral Vocation
- Statement of Leadership Style
- Statement of Spiritual Growth

## **3 References (1 Professional, 1 Friend, 1 Pastor)**

- Reference Form
- Return Envelope
- Interview with Recruit Team member
- Request school(s) to send transcripts

# Application for NWTX New Clergy Award Initiative

nxtxconf.org | 806-762-0201

Thank you for your interest in the NWTX New Clergy Award Initiative. This application form is one step in the process. Please refer to the checklist to make sure you fulfill all the requirements of the application process. Should you need assistance do not hesitate to contact the Conference Office. The deadline to apply for the New Clergy Award Initiative is January 31 of the year that the award is granted.

Please fill out the next few pages and send to:

Northwest Texas Conference Office

Attn: Mindy McLanahan

1401 Avenue M

Lubbock, TX 79401-3939

You will receive an email from the Conference Office after your application has been received and processed. Please allow up to XX business days for your application to be processed once received. Thank you!

# Biographical Information

## Name

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Last	First	Middle	Previous/Maiden	Preferred
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Social Security Number	Date of Birth	Personal Email Address	Phone Number
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Street Address	City	State	Zip Code
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## Education

List in chronological order all colleges and universities and institutions of theological studies attended for more than one semester. Attach an additional page if more space is needed.

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Institution Name	City, State, Country	Dates of Attendance
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Date/Projected Date of Graduation	Degree Earned	GPA
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Institution Name	City, State, Country	Dates of Attendance
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Date/Projected Date of Graduation	Degree Earned	GPA
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Institution Name	City, State, Country	Dates of Attendance
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Date/Projected Date of Graduation	Degree Earned	GPA
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Institution Name	City, State, Country	Dates of Attendance
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Date/Projected Date of Graduation	Degree Earned	GPA
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## Work History

Please provide employment information from the past 10 years. Attach an additional page if more space is needed.

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Employer	City, State, Country	Dates of Employment
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Employer's Phone Number	Employer's Email Address
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Brief Job Description

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Reason for Leaving

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Employer	City, State, Country	Dates of Employment
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Employer's Phone Number	Employer's Email Address
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Brief Job Description

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Reason for Leaving

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Employer	City, State, Country	Dates of Employment
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Employer's Phone Number	Employer's Email Address
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Brief Job Description

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Reason for Leaving

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Employer	City, State, Country	Dates of Employment
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Employer's Phone Number	Employer's Email Address
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Brief Job Description

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Reason for Leaving

## Personal Essays

Please submit these essays with your application form. The NWTX Board of Ordained Ministry recognizes that applicants for the New Clergy Award Initiative represent a wide range of experiences and backgrounds. Applicants must, therefore, demonstrate their personal integrity, spiritual maturity, and theological conviction as they pursue God's call in full-time ministry in the NWTX Conference. The following questions should be answered in three to four typed, double-spaced pages (1050-1500 total words, or 350-500 words per question). This required essay is a critical component of the application process. Please consider your response carefully, paying particular attention to content, style, grammar, and organization. If the Board of Ordained Ministry believes it is necessary, you may be asked to expand upon your answers.

1. Please share a statement of your personal faith. Discuss your life story and faith journey. How did you come to faith in Christ? What are some of the pivotal moments in your development as a follower of Jesus?
2. How would you describe your calling to vocational ministry? How has the calling been revealed and affirmed? Where do you think God is leading you in your ministry?
3. How would you describe your leadership style? How do you approach conversations with people who disagree with you in matters that you hold dear to your heart?
4. How do you attend to your spiritual growth? How is the Holy Spirit at work in your life?

## References

Please deliver the enclosed reference forms and accompanying envelopes to three people whom you have chosen to offer personal references (one colleague, one of your pastors, one friend). Please ask them to complete the form and return it in the provided envelope to:

Northwest Texas Conference Office  
Attn: Mindy McLanahan  
1401 Avenue M  
Lubbock, TX 79401-3939

## Submission of Application

I understand that selection of recipients of the NWTX New Clergy Award Initiative will take place at the prayerful discretion of the Board of Ordained Ministry. I assert the information contained herein is true and accurate.

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Applicant Name (Print)

Signature

Date

# NWTX New Clergy Award Initiative Reference Form

nctxconf.org | 806-762-0201

ALL INFORMATION WILL BE HELD CONFIDENTIAL IN EVERY RESPECT.

(Please Print)

Your Name:

Candidates Name:

1. In what capacity have you know the applicant? For how long?

Indicate the extent of your contact during the time of your association with the candidate:

- daily
- weekly
- monthly
- infrequently

2. Circle the four words from the following list that describe the applicant:

- |             |         |             |             |                  |
|-------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| Domineering | Nervous | Friendly    | Assertive   | Tactful          |
| Leader      | Happy   | Aggressive  | Considerate | Cooperative      |
| Reserved    | Moody   | Opinionated | Follower    | Well-adjusted    |
| Arrogant    | Unhappy | Stubborn    | Confident   | Lacks Confidence |

3. Would applicants have problems in working with any of the following:

Racial Minorities; Women; Men; People with Disabilities; People with Various Theological Opinions

Explain:

4. How well does the applicant finish projects and activities begun?

- Very well      Well      Average      Fair      Poor

5. Please share an example of the applicant's people skills. How has he or she exhibited a deep love for God in the ways that he or she interacts with others?

# NWTX New Clergy Award Initiative Reference Form

nctxconf.org | 806-762-0201

6. How would you describe the applicant's academic and professional competency?

7. How does the applicant attend to his or her spiritual growth?

Could you give an example of his or her self-motivation in pursuing God's call?

8. Would you hire this person today? If so, why?

9. How would you feel about the person's serving as a pastor in your local congregation?

10. May we contact you for further comment?

If yes, phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please use the back of this sheet to add any additional comments regarding the applicant.

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Signature

Date