

Careers in Ministry and Leadership

Associate Degree

Churches and ministries require various educational requirements. A position at one church might require a postsecondary degree while the same position at another church might only require a high school diploma. Please be aware of this variance. Earning an associate degree in Ministry and Leadership can make you more competitive candidate for entry level administrative and ministry positions. Church and ministry employers will view an educational understanding of the Bible and ministry as valuable assets, and therefore are more likely to hire a candidate who has completed biblical coursework. Having an associate degree also increases your earning potential and allows you to easily pursue a bachelor's degree if advancement is desired. In addition to a degree, employers also want to see work experience in the industry.

Here are some examples of careers that may require or prefer an associate degree in a ministry related field.

- Ministry Assistant or Coordinator
- Church Office Administrator
- Youth or Student Ministries Director
- Missions Agency Support Staff
- Children's Director

Bachelor's Degree

Many church and ministry positions will require a bachelor's degree in a Bible or ministry related field. However, some churches may require a seminary or Master's degree.

- Small Groups/Discipleship Pastor
- Parachurch Ministries Director or Manager
- Youth Pastor/Student Ministry Director
- Community Outreach Pastor
- Camp/Program Director
- Children's/Family Pastor
- Community Life Pastor/Director
- Campus Pastor

Master's Degree

- Chaplain (may require certification with a association)
- Executive/Senior Pastor
- Ministry Director
- College Campus Minister/Director