

Application for AMA Monthly Assistance

General Council of the Assemblies of God

FULL NAME _____ BIRTH DATE _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ E-MAIL: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____ Phone number () _____
(Other than your spouse) (Other than your home phone #)

A. PERSONAL STATUS

1. Married _____ Remarried _____ Widowed _____ Divorced _____ Separated _____ Single _____ (check one)
2. Full name of spouse _____ Birth Date _____ Age _____
3. Full date of marriage _____ Condition of spouse's health _____
4. If deceased, give full date of spouse's death _____
5. What year were you ordained with the General Council? _____ District? _____
6. If ordained less than 10 years, what year were you licensed? _____
7. With what district are you now affiliated? _____
8. What church do you attend? _____ City _____ State _____
9. How many years did you serve the Assemblies of God in active ministry as a licensed or ordained AG minister? _____
How many years did your spouse serve with you during your active ministry? _____
10. How many years since you have had an active ministry? _____
11. Reasons for inactivity _____

B. FAMILY STATUS

1. List names of all your children and give the following information for each:

FULL NAME	AGE	STREET ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP

2. Are your children assisting you financially? If yes, please list how: _____

3. Do you have dependent children? _____ If yes, how many? _____ Ages _____

C. FINANCIAL STATUS

1. Are you on Social Security now? _____ If NO, then when? _____

2. My (our) MONTHLY income from:

(a) Social Security (Monthly Benefit, less Part B, but not Part D for Rx -- Prescriptions)

\$ _____ Spouse _____

(b) Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

\$ _____ Spouse _____

(c) Interest Earnings

\$ _____ Spouse _____

(d) Investments, Rental Propety

\$ _____ Spouse _____

(e) IRA or retirement distribution

\$ _____ Spouse _____

(f) Other regular income

\$ _____ Spouse _____

(g) Veterans pension

\$ _____ Spouse _____

Describe other income: _____

3. Have you applied for assistance from any other sources? If so, please list:

4. My (our) CURRENT INVESTMENTS:

(a) Do you own your home? ___ Rent? ___ Live with children or relatives? _____

(b) If you live in your own home, is it paid for? ___ If not, remaining months on mortgage? _____

(c) Do you own other real estate? ___ Please describe property (farm land, house, etc.) _____

_____ Is this rental property? _____

(d) List all account balances : \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____

(checking)

(savings)

(MBA or retirement)

NOTE: ***We encourage having some savings, insurance, etc. for possible emergencies .***

(e) Do you have life insurance? () yes () no If yes, how much? _____

On your spouse's life? () yes () no If yes, how much? _____

(f) Do you have Medicare Part B? _____ Part C? _____ Part D? _____

Medicaid? _____ Supplemental insurance? _____ (which company?)

Comments or Questions: _____

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT _____ DATE _____

FAX this to AMA – 417-831-0207, scan and email to ama@ag.org, or mail to

AMA, General Council of the Assemblies of God

1445 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield, MO 65802-1894

Ph: 417-862-2781, ext 2184 E-mail: ama@ag.org Website: www.ama.ag.org

Assemblies of God Aged Ministers Assistance Program

Types of Assistance from AMA

There are 3 types of help from Aged Ministers Assistance:

- Monthly Assistance
- Emergency Medical Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

How to Apply for Aged Ministers Assistance

- Complete the Application for Aged Ministers Assistance.
- Send the completed application (mail or FAX) and the letter to the AMA office. Or you can scan and email it to ama@ag.org.
- AMA will contact the district office for district approval.
- The AMA Committee reviews the application. If all eligibility requirements are met, supplementary assistance is granted and the funds will be sent by direct deposit.

Emergency Assistance

In the event a minister is confronted with insurmountable medical bills or other unusual expenses not covered by Medicare and/or supplement medical insurance, he or she may apply for an emergency grant. If funds are available, the aged minister may be eligible for a limited grant restricted for payment toward these expenses.

- Complete the Application for Emergency Assistance and mail or FAX it to AMA.
- AMA will send it to your district for District Endorsement.
- The District forwards the completed application and recommendation to the AMA office.
- The Aged Ministers Assistance Committee reviews the application.

If all eligibility requirements are met, supplementary assistance is granted up to 66% of the need.

Guidelines for AMA Payments to Ministers on Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

There are restrictive rules that regulate what can be done for our ministers who are receiving SSI (Supplemental Security Income) and benefits from the Aged Ministers Assistance Department. Since SSI policy restricts how much income a recipient can have, it has proven to be detrimental to send funds of more than \$25 per person directly to the recipient, since it would discontinue the SSI program to the minister. Generally, this has been restricted to a very meager monthly income.

Because of the financial benefits the recipients derive from the SSI program, it is important that they retain that program, where possible, in order to receive the SSI fringe benefits. There is no way the AMA Department can match the SSI fringe benefits, particularly the health benefits. Thus, the procedure of support to these friends must be as follows:

- SSI will allow a third party, specifically a local church or district, to handle the payments for a minister on certain things that would not jeopardize SSI payments to the minister.
- Based on AMA policy, the AMA Department can make cash payments to the third party, (church or district) that would agree to act as an agent on the minister's behalf to provide certain help. This third party would then make direct payments for such services. No cash funds can be given directly to the minister, since it would jeopardize the funds being received from SSI.
- Funds provided from AMA as emergency assistance can be made available to care for certain unpaid medical bills, including doctors, clinics, prescriptions, utilities, insurance, etc., but must be paid by the third party directly to the agency providing the service.
- Such items as groceries, clothing, or personal needs can be purchased and delivered to the recipient as deemed necessary. It would have to be determined ahead of time as a legitimate need.

Questions & Answers

1. What is AMA all about?

Aged Ministers Assistance helps provide the daily needs of food, housing, and medicine for aged or disabled ministers and their spouses who have substandard incomes, as established by the General Council. **AMA is not a retirement fund or pension, but an emergency fund.**

2. Why are these ministers in need?

Decades ago they labored as foreign missionaries, pioneer pastors, and travelling evangelists. They gave their time, energy, and resources ...sacrificing freely for the work of God. Often they had no funds to lay aside for their retirement years. And because they had so little income during their ministry, their Social Security check is small.

Now retired, many of these ministers are forced to live without adequate means to provide even the barest necessities. Only with financial help from Aged Ministers Assistance can they partake of life's necessities in their sunset years.

Consider the great contribution these pioneers of the faith have made to the Assemblies of God ... and to you personally. AMA is a tangible way to let them know they're remembered and appreciated.

3. How great is the need?

Over 300 ministers and their spouses depend on AMA for their daily bread and help with medical expenses. It takes over \$800,000.00 each year to meet the needs of these dear saints. The number of ministers needing assistance continues to grow. Only as others give can we continue to help.

4. Where do AMA funds come from?

AMA is not a pension. **It is underwritten solely by contributions from concerned churches and individuals.**

The Scriptures admonish us to care for our aged ministers: *"The elders who direct the affairs of the church are well worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching"* (1 Timothy 5:17, NIV). Shouldn't that support continue after they have finished their years of ministry?

Funds disbursed through Aged Ministers Assistance are designated contributions to the AMA fund from individuals and churches. The amount of assistance given is regulated by the amount of contributions received and by policy adopted by the Executive Presbytery.

5. Who is eligible to receive AMA? (Policy Guidelines as of 2007)

General Requirements:

- **Minister:** 10 years of active ministry prior to retirement or disability; in good standing; ordained (licensed ministers considered on individual ministry record). Wife of minister must have served 10 years with him.
- **Age:** 65 for ministers; 60 for widows.
- **Income:**
 - **A single individual** may receive assistance if monthly income from all sources is less than \$918.00.
 - **A couple** may receive assistance if their income from all sources is less than \$1,377.00.
 - **Ministers who declined Social Security:** In fairness to those ministers who did pay into Social Security, AMA will consider assistance to those who opted out of Social Security equal to half of the approved maximum for all other ministers on AMA (currently \$459.00 for a single, and \$688.50 for a couple).
 - **Disability:** The age requirement can be waived in the event of total disability at a younger age. A physician's letter of verification is required.

Emergency: In the event a minister is confronted with insurmountable medical bills or other unusual expenses not covered by Medicare and/or supplement medical insurance, he may apply for an emergency grant. If funds are available, he may be eligible for a limited grant restricted for payment toward these expenses.

Questions? Call AMA, 417-862-2781, ext. 2184. Or e-mail: ama@ag.org.