



313 Peterson Drive • PO Box 821 • Elizabethtown KY 42701 • 270-769-6997 • www.feedingamericaky.org

Church Qualifier Form

The Internal Revenue Service used 14 different characteristics to determine whether an organization qualifies as a church. In accordance with this provision, Feeding American Kentucky's Heartland (FAKH) has a policy which requires that any org. which functions as a church must certify that **at least nine** of these characteristics are evidenced by their program. These characteristics are listed below. **NOTE:** Each item that your org. checks as a characteristic must be proven with copies of printed materials from your church, and **must be included** with your application. Examples of items that your church might use as evidence to satisfy legal requirements are shown below.

- 1. A distinct legal existence. (*Ex.: Articles of incorporation filed with the state.*)
- 2. A recognized creed & form of worship. (*Ex.: Cover page & two pages of creed, copy of church bulletin.*)
- 3. A definite & distinct ecclesiastical government. (*Ex.: Organization chart of parent organization as well as local church, indicating names and addresses of officials.*)
- 4. A formal code of doctrine & discipline. (*Ex.: Copy of cover and first three pages of document.*)
- 5. A membership not associated with any other church or denomination. (*Ex.: Statement of mission, objectives and goals of the church signed by the pastor and three others.*)
- 6. A distinct religious history. (*Ex.: If member of recognized association of churches, a copy of church bulletin. If no associated with other churches, a brief written history.*)
- 7. A complete organization of ordained ministers ministering to their congregations. (*Ex.: Church bulletin or other published document listing ministers.*)
- 8. Ordained ministers elected after completing prescribed courses of study. (*Ex. Appropriate documentation indicating such ordination and courses of study.*)
- 9. A literature of its own. (*Ex.: Copy of selected cover pages of appropriate literature.*)
- 10. Established places of worship. (*Ex.: Copy of church bulletin.*)
- 11. Regular congregations. (*Ex.: Copy of church bulletin.*)
- 12. Regular religious services (*Ex.: Copy of church bulletin.*)
- 13. Sunday schools for religious instruction of the young (*Ex.: Copy of church bulletin indicating times of Sunday schools.*)
- 14. Schools for the preparation of its ministers. (*Ex.: List of names and addresses of schools.*)

TO PROVIDE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO NUTRITIOUS FOOD, SO NO ONE WILL GO HUNGRY.



313 Peterson Drive • PO Box 821 • Elizabethtown KY 42701 • 270-769-6997 • www.feedingamericaky.org

As duly authorized officers of _____ (church name), we certify that this org. meets the requirements indicated for identification as a church. (Check appropriate items in the above listing)

Signature	Date	Title
Printed Name	Address	Phone #

TO PROVIDE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO NUTRITIOUS FOOD, SO NO ONE WILL GO HUNGRY.