



Agency Ref. #: 3431-PTD
Date: _____

FEEDING AMERICA KENTUCKY'S HEARTLAND CHURCH QUALIFIER FORM

Agency Name: _____

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 organization 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 organization 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 and form of worship. (Ex.: Cover page & two pages of creed, copy of church bulletin.)
3. A definite and 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 and discipline. (Ex.: Copy of cover and first 3 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 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. (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.)

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

Signature Date Title
Printed Name Address Phone Number