

**The General Council of the Assemblies of God  
A Study Guide for the Polity and History Exam**

The only resource permitted while taking this exam is the General Council Constitution and Bylaws.

**Resources**

*The Constitution and Bylaws of the General Council of the Assemblies of God.* (Be sure you have the most recent revised edition of the Constitution and Bylaws by downloading a copy from <https://ag.org/about/about-the-ag/constitution-and-bylaws>.)

Gary B. McGee, *People of the Spirit: The Assemblies of God* (Springfield, Missouri: Gospel Publishing House, 2014.)

**This Study Guide**

The Study Guide prepares you for the Polity and History Exam by pointing you to key sections of the *Constitution and Bylaws* and to *People of the Spirit*. You are expected to read both resources in their entirety but pay special attention to the topics listed here. Use the following key when looking up the reference notations:

- **CN:** The Constitution of The General Council of the Assemblies of God
- **BL:** The Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God
- **PS:** *People of the Spirit: The Assemblies of God*

|    | Topic  | Reference  |
|----|--|--|
| 1  | Purpose of the General Council of the Assemblies of God  | CN: Preamble "We Believe"<br>BL: Article 3, Section 1, Paragraph a |
| 2  | Who Comprises the Membership of the General Council of the Assemblies of God   | CN: Article VII, Sections 1–3                                      |
| 3  | The Composition and Terms of Office of the Executive Presbytery  | CN: Article IX, Section 2, Paragraphs a and b                      |
| 4  | The Representation, Qualifications, and Responsibilities of the General Presbytery   | CN: Article IX, Section 3  |
| 5  | The Regular Sessions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God Membership Referred to as "General Council" Occur Every Two Years | CN: Article VIII, Section 1  |
| 6  | The Corporate Officers and the Executive Leadership Team of The General Council  | CN: Article IX, Section 1, Paragraphs a and b                      |
| 7  | The Executive Presbytery Serves as the Board of Directors  | CN: Article IX, Section 2, Paragraph b                             |
| 8  | District Councils: Geographical and Language/Ethnic Districts  | CN: Article X, Section 3, Paragraphs a and b                       |
| 9  | The Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of a Local Assembly Is in Alignment with General Council and District Council Bylaws          | CN: Article XI, Section 1, Paragraphs a–e                          |
| 10 | Local Assemblies and the Right of Self-Government  | CN: Article XI, Section 1, Paragraph c                             |

|    | Topic   | Reference   |
|----|---|---|
| 11 | Dissolution of a Corporation and the Distribution of Assets and Payments of Obligations   | CN: Article XII<br>BL: Article IX, Section 7, Paragraph c |
| 12 | The Work of The General Council is Governed by <i>Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised</i>                                     | BL: Article 1   |
| 13 | Duties of the Executive Presbytery  | BL: Article III, Section 7, Paragraphs a–t                |
| 14 | Sponsorship of a Resolution for Consideration by the General Council  | BL: Article IV, Section 4, Paragraph b                    |
| 15 | The Primary Roles of the District Council   | BL: Article V, Section 2                                  |
| 16 | Voting Constituency at a District Council   | BL: Article V, Section 4                                  |
| 17 | Language and Ethnic District Councils   | BL: Article V, Section 6                                  |
| 18 | The Requirements of Affiliation for a Local Assembly  | BL: Article VI, Sections 1–8                              |
| 19 | Safeguarding Local Assemblies from Dismissed Ministers  | BL: Article VI, Section 3, Paragraphs a and b             |
| 20 | Relationships between Churches, District Councils, and the General Council  | BL: Article VI, Section 4, Paragraphs a–d                 |
| 21 | Affiliated Churches Are Amenable to the General Council While Being Sovereign, Autonomous, Self-Governing, and Self-Determining | BL: Article VI, Section 4, Paragraph a                    |
| 22 | Recognition of Ministry Gifts without Regard to Gender, Race, Disability, or National Origin                                    | BL: Article VII, Section 1                                |
| 23 | Sacerdotal Functions of Credentialed Ministers  | BL: Article VII, Section 1                                |
| 24 | Qualifications for Ministerial Credentials  | BL: Article VII, Section 2, Paragraphs a–m                |
| 25 | Voluntary Cooperation and Commitment to the Fellowship  | BL: Article VII, Section 2, Paragraph g                   |
| 26 | Basic Education Requirements for Credentialed Ministers   | BL: Article VII, Section 2, Paragraph h                   |
| 27 | Ecclesiastical Annulments and Marriage Dissolutions   | BL: Article VII, Section 2, Paragraph k                   |
| 28 | Eligibility of Women in Ministry  | BL: Article VII, Section 2, Paragraph l                   |
| 29 | The Three Levels of Ministerial Credentials in the Assemblies of God  | BL: Article VII, Section 3, Paragraphs c–e                |
| 30 | The Qualifications for Ministerial Ordination   | BL: Article VII, Section 3, Paragraph e                   |
| 31 | Amenability of Credentialed Ministers to Both the District Council and the General Council                                      | BL: Article VII, Section 8, Paragraph a                   |

|    | <b>Topic</b>  | <b>Reference</b>                                 |
|----|---|--|
| 32 | Ministerial Transfer of Credentials from One District to Another Must Occur within Sixty Days | BL: Article VII, Section 9, Paragraph a          |
| 33 | Credential Holders Who Transfer between Language/Ethnic Districts and Geographic Districts    | BL: Article VII, Section 9, Paragraph d          |
| 34 | Ministerial Credential Renewals and Reinstatements  | BL: Article VII, Section 10                      |
| 35 | Reinstatement of a Lapsed Ministerial Credential  | BL: Article VII, Section 10, Paragraph d         |
| 36 | Ministerial Financial Support of the National Leadership and Resource Center                  | BL: Article VII, Section 10, Paragraph f         |
| 37 | Christian Marriage Is between a Man and a Woman   | BL: Article VIII, Section 1                      |
| 38 | Disapproved Doctrine: Unconditional Security  | BL: Article IX, B, Section 1                     |
| 39 | Disapproved Doctrine: Legalism  | BL: Article IX, B, Section 2, Paragraphs a and b |
| 40 | Disapproved Doctrines and Practices as It Pertains to Eschatological Errors                   | BL: Article IX, B, Section 3, Paragraphs a–e     |
| 41 | Imminent Return of Christ   | BL: Article IX, B, Section 3, Paragraph c        |
| 42 | Divorce and Remarriage  | BL: Article IX, B, Section 5                     |
| 43 | Performing Marriage Ceremonies  | BL: Article IX, B, Section 5, Paragraph d        |
| 44 | Tithing   | BL: Article IX, B, Section 7, Paragraph a        |
| 45 | Violations of Ministerial Courtesy  | BL: Article IX, B, Section 8                     |
| 46 | Ministry in a Non-Assemblies of God Church  | BL: Article IX, B, Section 9                     |
| 47 | Divine Healing and Professional Medicine  | BL: Article IX, B, Section 12                    |
| 48 | The Nature and Purposes of Discipline   | BL: Article X, Section 1                         |
| 49 | Ministerial Discipline: The District Hearing the Case   | BL: Article X, Section 7, Paragraph a            |
| 50 | Assemblies of God World Missions and the Indigenous Principle                                 | BL: Article XIII, Section 1, Paragraph d         |
| 51 | Support of Assemblies of God World Missionaries   | BL: Article XIII, Section 5, Paragraphs a–d      |
| 52 | Chi Alpha Campus Ministries   | BL Article XIV, Section 2, Paragraph c, (2)      |
| 53 | U.S. Missions Missionary Church Planters and Developers                                       | BL Article XIV, Section 2, Paragraph c, (3)      |
| 54 | Military Service  | BL: Article XVII                                 |

|    | <b>Topic</b>  | <b>Reference</b>  |
|----|---|-------------------|
| 55 | The Worldwide Constituency of the Assemblies of God   | PS: page 7        |
| 56 | Baptism in the Holy Spirit with Evidence of Speaking in Tongues and the Parham School (Bethel Bible School) | PS: pages 48–51   |
| 57 | The Apostolic Faith Mission and the Azusa Street Revival  | PS: pages 52–59   |
| 58 | Statement of Fundamental Truths Adopted in 1916   | PS: pages 98, 111 |
| 59 | Hot Springs, AR (April 1914) and the Beginning of the Assemblies of God                                     | PS: pages 99–107  |
| 60 | Serious Doctrinal Error within the First Two Years of the Newly Established Assemblies of God               | PS: pages 110–111 |
| 61 | The Birth of Assemblies of God Foreign Missions   | PS: pages 139–155 |
| 62 | The Ministry of David Wilkerson and Teen Challenge  | PS: pages 312–315 |