

Supervised Ministry Experience

OVERVIEW

The Supervised Ministry Experience (SME) component of the Intermountain District Ministerial Development Initiative gives you, the minister in development (MID), local church involvement that, by design, adds both breadth and depth of experience in ministry. SME is also a window through which the local Pastor/Staff and Ministerial Development Board is given opportunity to observe and advise you in concrete ministry situations in order to strengthen and prepare you for a lifetime of effective ministry.

SME is developed within the following quadrants: *Observation, Exploration, Experience* and *Integration*. Each quadrant builds on the previous and intensifies as to the amount of time, effort, and responsibility expected. Throughout all four SME phases, you are accountable to and under the supervision of the local Pastor/Staff. A *portfolio* consisting of Learning Contracts, journal pages, Reflection papers, time-logs, and other assigned documents must be submitted to the Placement Coordinator of the Ministerial Development Board as each quadrant is completed.

Ideally, you will complete each quadrant as you fulfill the various other requirements for Tiers 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively. If you began your ministerial development on another District but are now completing your preparation on the Intermountain District, you may have been placed in advanced Tiers even though you have *not* completed each of the Supervised Ministry Field Experience quadrants. In such case, all SME quadrants must still be completed, and *in order*. If you feel you have had experiences in ministry that SME Quads 1 and/or 2 would duplicate, you may submit a request to receive credit for one or both of these quads. The decision to grant or deny such a request in part or in full rests solely with the Placement Coordinator.

Those who are students at Northwest Nazarene University or who are auditing courses at NNU, must enroll in PT 171, 296, 396, and 496 to complete the Supervised Ministry Experience (Field Experience) requirement in lieu of the above.

The SME Quads

QUAD 1: Observation

You will invest a minimum of 20 hours OBSERVING and reflecting upon a variety of local church ministries under the supervision of the pastor or a member of the pastoral staff assigned by the pastor as your direct supervisor. The primary focus of the field experience is *not* logging hours, but gaining a valuable experience base for competency in ministry.

QUAD 2: Exploration

You will invest a minimum of 40 hours EXPLORING in greater depth a variety of local church ministries under the supervision of the pastor or a member of the pastoral staff assigned by the pastor as your direct supervisor. The primary focus of the field experience is *not* logging hours, but gaining a valuable experience base for ministry.

QUAD 3: Experience

Under the supervision of the local Pastor/Staff, you will invest a minimum of 60 hours EXPERIENCING two or three specific ministry situations at a more in-depth level in the local church.

QUAD 4: Integration

Under the supervision of the local Pastor/Staff, you will invest a minimum of 80 hours in one or two specific ministry situations in the local church where you will have significant responsibility for the effectiveness of the ministry. The emphasis of this intensive ministry experience is INTEGRATING all that has been experienced or learned thus far in field experience and through the educational component of ministerial development.

Getting Started

Guidelines for each SME Quad are available at www.intermountaindistrict.org. Select “MIDS” from the Ministerial Development drop-down menu, and then scroll down the page to the Supervised Ministry Experience section. Select and download the guide for the Quad you need to complete. After reading through the guide, set up an appointment with the pastor of the local church you are presently attending in order to devise a plan for completing the quad. Providing a copy of the guide to the pastor is recommended.

When you Complete a Quad

Submit your portfolio for the completed SME Quad just as soon as you have it ready. There's no need to wait until the February 15 annual deadline (when transcripts and other items are due). Your portfolio should be sent or taken to the MDB Placement Coordinator, in care of the District Office. The street address of the office is 807 S. Canyon, Nampa, Idaho. The mailing address is PO Box 1159, Nampa, ID, 83653. After it has been evaluated, your portfolio will be returned to you.