

How Does My Church Become A Member of the Southside Baptist Network?

The Southside Baptist Network is the newest association recognized by the Georgia Baptist Convention. It was founded March 1, 2013. Our motto is *Churches On Mission Together*. We provide... Strategic. Missional. Leadership.

Churches are The Network. The Southside Baptist Network exists to connect, strengthen, and serve our churches. We help equip pastors and churches to fulfill the Great Commission and do the works of service God has called us to do. Membership in The Network indicates a commitment to walk with, pray for, and be willing to help sister churches in our local mission field.

Steps in the Process:

1. Mail or email a letter to the Director of Ministries requesting membership, along with the following documents: the resume or a bio of the Pastor, the church Bylaws, the church's doctrinal statement (if it is not the Baptist Faith & Message 2000), and the current budget. Mail or deliver the letter and documents to 2170 Jonesboro Road, McDonough, GA 30253, or email to Dr. Ray Gentry, Director of Ministries, at rgentry@southsidebaptistnetwork.org.
2. Upon receipt of the letter, the Credentials Team will conduct an initial review of the information provided. The Team will request a meeting with the church leaders. It is important that the Pastor, staff, and key lay leaders be present for this meeting.
3. The Credentials Team will be looking for signs that the church wants to be an active, participating member of The Network, that it shares a common commitment to evangelism and missions, that it holds to common beliefs (see [Baptist Faith & Message 2000](#)), and that it will give consistent financial support to the work of The Network. It is recommended that each church gives 3% of undesignated gifts that it receives to Associational Missions through the Southside Baptist Network.
4. Once the church meets the qualifications, the Credentials Team will recommend one of two things to the Executive Council:
 - a) The church be accepted under watch care.
 - b) The church be accepted into membership.