

Recommendations for becoming a **CHURCH PLANT GROUP** in the Texas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists:

1. Demographic viability is confirmed by the Texas Conference church planting department.
2. Mother church or conference administration has voted support for the group to meet weekly and begin planning toward a plant.
3. Weekly meeting for the purpose of spiritual fellowship and strategic church plant planning. The “incubation” period should continue for a minimum of six months before group begins Sabbath worship services.
4. Recommended study for group: *Rekindling a Lost Passion* and *ABC's of Natural Church Development* by Russell Burrill, and the book of Acts. Order by calling NADEI at 269-471-8303.
5. Financial giving is run through the mother church. A separate line item is set up for donations made by group members toward their planting project. The funds are available to the group as needs arise.

Requirements for obtaining **COMPANY STATUS** in the Texas Conference:

1. 30 baptized members.
2. 30+ average attendance for the previous 3 months.
3. \$25,000 in projected annual tithe.
4. Local Church Finances:
Once company status is voted, the group is to set up a bank account in consultation with the Conference Undertreasurer. The Conference auditor should also be contacted to receive accounting software to set it up.
The group agrees to establish a line item in their budget for a building fund. This fund will receive a monthly allocation from the combined budget.
5. Date set to complete the Natural Church Development survey. The Conference will cover the cost of the first survey.
6. Assigned pastor or pastor-coach if group is lay led.

Requirements for obtaining CHURCH STATUS in the Texas Conference:

1. 55 baptized members.
2. 60+ average attendance for previous 3 months.
3. 10+ individuals have joined by baptism or profession of faith since the company was organized.
4. Company has held at least one public evangelistic series.
5. \$50,000 in projected annual tithe.
6. A strategy and timeline have been established for fund raising and the eventual acquisition of a church facility.
7. Treasurer has completed certification process with the Texas Conference treasury department. Treasurer and pastor cannot be from the same household.
8. Completion of the Natural Church Development survey with minimum average score of 50.
9. Voted commitment to support Adventist education:
Option #1 - A monthly subsidy for member's children to attend an Adventist church school.
Option #2 - A constituent relationship with an Adventist church school. Once the subsidy reaches an acceptable level, voting representation on the school board is to be expected.
10. Completion of a review with the Conference church planting director or another designated individual.
11. Assigned pastor or pastor-coach if the church is lay led.