

**PART 1645—CLASSIFICATION OF  
MINISTERS OF RELIGION**

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AUTHORITY: Military Selective Service Act, 50 U.S.C. App. 451 *et seq.*; E.O. 11623.

SOURCE: 47 FR 4660, Feb. 1, 1982, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 1645.1 Purpose; definitions.**

(a) The provisions of this part govern the consideration of a claim by a registrant for classification in Class 4-D (§ 1630.43 of this chapter).

(b) The definitions of this paragraph shall apply in the interpretation of the provisions of this part:

(1) The term *duly ordained minister of religion* means a person:

(i) Who has been ordained in accordance with the ceremonial ritual or discipline of a church, religious sect, or organization established on the basis of a community of faith and belief, doctrines and practices of a religious character; and

(ii) Who preaches and teaches the doctrines of such church, sect, or organization; and

(iii) Who administers the rites and ceremonies thereof in public worship; and

(iv) Who, as his regular and customary vocation, preaches and teaches the principles of religion; and

(v) Who administers the ordinances of public worship as embodied in the creed or principles of such church, sect, or organization.

(2) The term *regular minister of religion* means one who as his customary vocation preaches and teaches the principles of religion of a church, a religious sect, or organization of which he is a member, without having been formally ordained as a minister of religion, and who is recognized by such church, sect, or organization as a regular minister.

(3) The term *regular or duly ordained minister of religion* does not include:

(i) A person who irregularly or incidentally preaches and teaches the principles of religion of a church, religious sect, or organization; or

(ii) Any person who has been duly ordained a minister in accordance with the ceremonial rite or discipline of a church, religious sect or organization, but who does not regularly, as a bona fide vocation, teach and preach the principles of religion and administer the ordinances of public worship, as embodied in the creed or principles of his church, sect, or organization.

(4) The term *vocation* denotes one's regular calling or full-time profession.

**§ 1645.2 The claim for minister of religion classification.**

A claim to classification in Class 4-D must be made by the registrant in writing, such document being placed in his file folder.

**§ 1645.3 Basis for classification in Class 4-D.**

In accordance with part 1630 of this chapter any registrant shall be placed in Class 4-D who is a:

(a) Duly ordained minister of religion; or

(b) Regular minister of religion.

**§ 1645.4 Exclusion from Class 4-D.**

A registrant is excluded from Class 4-D when his claim clearly shows that:

(a) He is not a regular minister or a duly ordained minister; or

(b) He is a duly ordained minister of religion in accordance with the ceremonial rite or discipline of a church, religious sect or organization, but who does not regularly as his bona fide vocation, teach and preach the principles of religion and administer the ordinances of public worship, as embodied in the creed or principles of his church, sect, or organization; or

(c) He is a regular minister of religion, but does not regularly, as his bona fide vocation, teach and preach the principles of religion; or

(d) He is not recognized by the church, sect, or organization as a regular minister of religion; or