

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



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January 3, 2017

TO SELECTED COORDINATORS OF THE BODIES OF ELDERS AND SECRETARIES

Re: 2017 Pioneer Service School

Dear Brothers:

Along with this letter is a letter from your circuit overseer addressed to each pioneer who may be eligible to attend Pioneer Service School in 2017. Before giving the circuit overseer's letter to the pioneer, please verify that he meets one of the following requirements:

- The pioneer was appointed to begin regular pioneer service on or before September 1, 2016, has not attended school within the last five years, and will be at least 16 years of age by September 1, 2017. A younger pioneer may attend only if his pioneer parent qualifies to attend the same class.
- The pioneer was invited to attend last year but was unable to do so or missed at least three full days because of sickness or some other unexpected emergency. Before inviting such a pioneer, make sure his pioneer service has continued uninterrupted.

If someone does not meet the above requirements, **do not give him the invitation letter, and notify your circuit overseer.** If any pioneers who receive an invitation letter discontinue pioneering before the class begins, please notify your circuit overseer right away and inform the Service Department.

If a pioneer prefers to attend school in a language other than the language of your circuit, do not give him the circuit overseer's invitation letter. Instead, provide your circuit overseer with the pioneer's name, address, telephone number, and the distance he is willing to travel to attend another class. If there will be a class in that language, your circuit overseer will give the pioneer's information to the appropriate circuit overseer.

Regular pioneers receive a 30-hour credit for the month they attend school in addition to any time they spend in the field service that month. This credit should not be included as field service time, but should be posted on the *Congregation's Publisher Record (S-21)* card in the "Comments" section. Special pioneers and field missionaries should be directed to make the notation "Attended pioneer school" on their field service reports to the branch office and to the congregation.

We appreciate your assistance. Please accept an expression of our warm Christian love.

Your brothers,

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