

Information Concerning Priesthood Line of Authority

The First Presidency recently authorized gathering information for priesthood lines of authority for the following:

- Melchizedek Priesthood conferral (usually ordination to the office of elder)
- Ordination to the office of high priest

Tracing Priesthood Line of Authority

When you ordain others to offices in the Melchizedek Priesthood, their priesthood line of authority will be determined by the priesthood office you hold at the time you perform the ordination. For example, if you are an elder when you ordain your son an elder, he would trace his line of authority through your elder ordination line of authority. However, if you are a high priest when you ordain your son an elder, he would trace his line of authority through your high priest ordination line of authority.

Note: Though a priesthood holder with the office of seventy may be included in a member's personal line of authority, no separate line of authority is maintained for the office of seventy. Ordained bishops and patriarchs trace their priesthood line of authority through their high priest ordination. Priesthood line of authority is not recorded for Atonic Priesthood offices.

Requesting Your Priesthood Line of Authority

If you wish to request your priesthood line of authority, include your full legal name, birth date, membership record number (if known), the name of the individual who ordained you to the office of elder or high priest (if known), and your return address and telephone number or e-mail address. Send your request to:

Priesthood Line of Authority
Member and Statistical Records
50 East North Temple, Room 1320
Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-5300

Telephone: 1-800-453-3860, extension 2-3500
E-mail: lineofauthority@ldschurch.org

Correcting Your Priesthood Line of Authority

Upon receipt, review your Priesthood Line of Authority document for accuracy. If any information is incomplete or inaccurate, send corrections to the street or e-mail address shown above. Corrections or additions should include information on: officiator names, birth dates, or appropriate ages; locations where ordinations occurred; and your relationship to officiators, if any (such as father, father-in-law, bishop, and so on). An updated Priesthood Line of Authority document will be sent to you that will include any corrections.

Validity of Your Priesthood Ordination

Because of missing information a priesthood line of authority may be incomplete. In such a case, your individual priesthood is nevertheless valid because:

- Your stake president, through the priesthood keys he held at the time, authorized your ordination.
- Your ordination was recorded in the official records of the Church.