



CHAPTER PROBATIONARY STATUS DEFINED

NIC chapters may from time to time drop into a *Probationary Status*. This is most often due to lack of growth or lack of leadership.

Generally *Probationary Status* will not last for more than one month. If after 4 meetings the chapter has not added at least one new member or a committed leadership team is not in place, the chapter will close and existing members given the opportunity to join another chapter.

Probationary Status generally results in one of the following:

- 1. The existing members rally together to gain new members or establish new leadership.**
2. The chapter decides to negotiate a merger with another chapter.
3. The chapter decides to close and members join other chapters.
4. The existing members decide to stay together, to come out from under the covering of NIC and continue to meet as a small group fellowship. Some or all of the members may choose to do this as well as join another NIC chapter.

In many cases, chapter *Probationary Status* does not indicate a lack of desire on the part of chapter leadership to grow the chapter. It may, however, indicate a lack of time, energy or ability. This is sometimes remedied by the chapter electing a fresh leadership team. *Probationary Status* may also indicate unforeseen and unavoidable departure of key members of the leadership team.

In rare cases, *Probationary Status* may indicate refusal on the part of leadership or the entire chapter to follow *NIC Policies and Procedures*. This being the case, *Probationary Status* is discontinued when the chapter is in compliance.