

**FOR ORDAINED DEACONS IN FULL CONNECTION TO TRANSITION
TO ELDER IN FULL CONNECTION**

The following steps are recommended for ordained deacons who wish to be received as elders in full connection (Par. 309):

1. Ordained deacons in full connection who are in good standing and seek to be ordained as elders in full connection shall apply in writing to the Board of Ordained Ministry and inform the district superintendent and bishop of their intention.
2. The Board of Ordained Ministry will interview such persons, inviting them to articulate their call and their understanding of the ministry of the elder as outlined in the Book of Discipline (Par. 332-336)
3. The Board of Ordained Ministry will determine if such persons have completed all academic and other requirements for the order of elder according to the Book of Discipline, and South Carolina Conference policy guidelines.
4. Such persons shall have completed an appropriate formation time in the ministry of the elder. These persons should be appointed and serve as a licensed for Pastoral Ministry for at least two years prior to their ordination as an elder.
5. The Board of Ordained Ministry may require additional education to assure that their education is equivalent to the MDiv. Degree.
6. Upon the recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry and two-thirds vote of the Clergy session, such persons may be ordained elder and receive into the order of elders.
7. Following satisfactory completion of the listed requirements, such persons shall deposit their credentials as a deacon with the bishop and will no longer function as a deacon or participate in the order of deacons. The bishop will then issue credentials as an elder.

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