

Becoming A Certified Lay Minister



A Certified Lay Minister ([¶268](#)) desires to further his/her calling to preach the word, provide a care ministry to the congregation, assist in program leadership and be a witness in the community for the growth and missional and connectional thrust of the United Methodist Church as part of a ministry team with the supervision and support of a clergy person. The Superintendent of a District assigns a Certified Lay Minister to a particular ministry within the South Carolina Annual Conference.

To become a Certified Lay Minister, you must complete the following requirements:

- Be a professing and active member of a local church/charge.
- Complete a Lay Servant Ministries Initial Application. The application will be submitted to your pastor and your church's Charge Conference for approval, and ultimately to the district Committee on Lay Servant Ministry for action.
 - Written recommendation from District Superintendent (On application)
 - Written recommendation from Pastor (On application)
 - Vote of Charge Conference (On application)
- Complete [Form F102](#) (Biographical Background Form)
- Complete [Form 07SCBOM](#) (Criminal Background Form)
- Complete a Course of Sexual Ethics
- Complete the Basic Course for Lay Servant Ministries.
- Complete the six required core Lay Speaker courses of study:
 - Discovering Spiritual Gifts
 - Leading Worship
 - Leading Prayer
 - Called To Preach
 - Living Our United Methodist Beliefs (Heritage)
 - Life Together in the United Methodist Connection (UM Polity)
- Complete four CLM modules:
 - Call and Covenant for Ministry
 - The Practice of Ministry
 - Organization for Ministry
 - Connection for Ministry – Discipleship Ministries
- Interview with the district Committee on Ordained Ministry and be recommended.
- Complete a Lay Servant Ministries [Request for Renewal Application](#) (back) every two years.
- Interview with the district Committee on Ordained Ministry and be recommended to the Conference Committee on Lay Servant Ministries for recertification every two years.
- Complete continuing education aligned with ministry assignment and update a mutual ministry plan

Lay Servant Ministries Application

Initial Application or Request for Renewal
To the Charge Conference



Date _____

Lay Servant Contact Information

Name: Mrs. Ms. Mr. _____

Address: _____

Primary phone: _____ Email: _____
 Home Work Cell

District: _____ Name of church: _____

Church address: _____

Church phone: _____

Name of pastor: _____

Initial Application

Request of Lay Servant to begin as: Local Lay Servant Certified Lay Servant
 Certified Lay Speaker Certified Lay Minister

Candidate's signature _____ Date: _____

I recommend concurrence with the request of the Lay Servant.

Pastor's signature _____ Date: _____

The charge conference of _____ (church/charge)
recommends concurrence with request of the Lay Servant request in the ensuing year.

District superintendent's signature _____ Date: _____

Request for Renewal

Request of Lay Servant to renew certification as: Local Lay Servant Certified Lay Servant
 Certified Lay Speaker Certified Lay Minister

Candidate's signature _____ Date: _____

I recommend concurrence with the request of the Lay Servant.

Pastor's signature _____ Date: _____

The charge conference of _____ (church/charge)
recommends concurrence with the Lay Servant's request for renewal in the ensuing year.

District superintendent's signature _____ Date: _____

After this form is completed and signed by those listed above, the Recording Secretary of the Charge Conference retains the original and is requested to produce three copies: one each for (1) the Lay Servant, (2) the District Committee on Lay Servant Ministries or the District Committee on Ordained Ministry of all Certified Lay Ministers, and (3) the District Superintendent.