



South Carolina Conference
The United Methodist Church

GUIDE TO APPROVAL FOR SERVICE



This guide is made for any clergy from other United Methodist Conferences, Methodist Denominations, or Non-Methodist Christian Denominations who are exploring the possibility of ministry with and through The United Methodist Church in the South Carolina Conference.

This is intended to be an introductory guide to the process and does not include all the details related to privileges, restrictions and expectations related to the Approval for Service process. For those details please refer to ¶346 and ¶347 of the 2016 Discipline of the United Methodist Church and the South Carolina Conference's Policy Guidelines (<https://www.umcsc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021-BOM-Policy-Guidelines.pdf>).

The guide is divided into seven sections. The first three sections address the process for serving in the South Carolina Conference based on your background. The last four sections address how you might transfer into the South Carolina United Methodist Conference, again based on your background. Below is a list of important terms and understandings which may help you through this process. Feel free to skip around this guide. It's not made to be read straight through, and not everything is applicable to everyone.

We are so happy that you are exploring this avenue of ministry and excited to work with you on this journey!

HELPFUL TERMS AND PHRASES TO KNOW

Advanced Course of Study (ACOS) – Advanced theological education program of the Division of Ordained Ministry, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. It is provided for those who are licensed as local pastors to complete the Disciplinary Basic Graduate Theological Courses. Participants in the program must have completed candidacy for ordained ministry, the studies for license as a local pastor, been approved/recommended for license by the dCOM and conference Board of Ordained Ministry, completed the Basic Course of Study and is serving an appointment.

Approved for Service – A process by which ordained, provisional and licensed clergy from other United Methodist Conferences, Methodist Denominations and other Christian Denominations can be approved to serve United Methodist Churches in South Carolina.

Associate Member – Associate members are clergy members of the Annual Conference and have voice and vote at annual conference on all matters except constitutional amendments and matters of ordination, clergy character and conference relations of clergy.

“At least equal to those of United Methodist elders” - means that in addition to having been ordained, the clergy person has met the educational requirements or the equivalent approved by the GBHEM for full membership and ordination in the United Methodist Church and in the SCAC. GBHEM will certify that the educational requirements for the United Methodist Church have been met, and the Office of Clergy Services will certify that the requirements of the SCAC have been met.

Certified Candidacy – Candidacy phase when a candidate has completed the mentoring process and has met with and been certified as a candidate for licensed or ordained ministry by the district committee on ordained ministry.

Commissioning – The credentialing of provisional deacons and elders. The act of the church that publicly acknowledges God's call and response, talents, gifts and training of the candidate. The church invokes the Holy Spirit as the candidate is commissioned to be a faithful servant leader among the people, to lead the church in service, to proclaim the Word of God and to equip others for ministry.

Conference – The governing and administering body for United Methodists in the South Carolina Area.

Conference Board of Ordained Ministry (BoM) – The body that oversees, cares for, and evaluates candidates for ministry through the candidacy process, and is also responsible for maintaining a relationship with local pastors in the conference.

HELPFUL TERMS AND PHRASES TO KNOW

Course of Study (COS) - The basic theological education program of the Division of Ordained Ministry, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. It is provided for those who are licensed as local pastors who are unable to attend an approved seminary. Participants in the program must have completed candidacy for ordained ministry, the studies for license as a local pastor, been approved/recommended for license by the dCOM and conference Board of Ordained Ministry, and is serving an appointment. Often referred to as the Basic Course of Study (BCOS).

Deacon – Persons called by God, authorized by the Church, and ordained by a bishop to a lifetime ministry of Word, Service, Compassion and Justice to both the community and the congregation.

District – The body that oversees, cares for, and evaluates candidates for ministry through the candidacy process, and is also responsible for maintaining a relationship with local pastors.

District Committee on Ordained Ministry (dCOM) - The body that oversees, cares for, and evaluates candidates for ministry through the candidacy process, and is also responsible for maintaining a relationship with local pastors in each district.

District Superintendent (DS) – an elder appointed by the bishop, usually for a six-year term. The DS oversees the ministry of the district's clergy and churches, provides spiritual and pastoral leadership, works with the bishop and others in the appointment of ordained ministers to serve the district's churches, presides at meetings of the charge conference, and oversees programs within the district.

Elder – Persons who are ordained to a lifetime ministry of Word, Sacrament, Order and Service; authorized to preach and teach the Word of God, to administer the sacraments of baptism and Holy Communion, and to order the life of the Church for mission and ministry.

General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) – The GBHEM is the leadership development agency of the United Methodist Church. It prepares global leaders for a global church and the world. Every elder, deacon and licensed local pastor benefits from the training and candidacy programs.

Licensed Local Pastor (FL/PL) – Persons who are licensed and appointed to preach, conduct divine worship, and perform the duties of a pastor in the context of a specific appointment, but are not ordained as elders. Licensed local pastors are clergy members of the Annual Conference and have voice and vote on all matters except constitutional amendments and matters of ordination, clergy character and conference relations of clergy.

Ordination – The church affirms and continues the apostolic ministry through persons empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Other Denomination (OF) – Ordained Clergy Members of other Christian Denominations that have been “Approved to Serve” United Methodist Churches in South Carolina. They retain their membership in their home denomination and therefore do not have voting rights in the South Carolina Conference.

Other Elder (OE) – Ordained Clergy Members of other United Methodist Annual Conferences or Methodist Denominations that have been Approved to Serve United Methodist Churches in South Carolina. They retain their membership in their home conference or denomination and therefore do not have voting rights in the South Carolina Conference.

Other Methodist Denominations - defined by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the South Carolina United Methodist Conference as those listed by the World Methodist Council as member Churches.
(<https://worldmethodistcouncil.org/member-churches/>)

Provisional Member – Conference relationship of commissioned ministers (deacons and elders) who are on trial in preparation for membership in full connection in the annual conference as deacons and elders. During that three-year period, they are participants in the Clergy Leadership Academy and under the care of the Conference Board of Ordained. Provisional members have voice and vote at annual conference on all matters except constitutional amendments and matters of ordination, clergy character, and conference relations of clergy.

UMCARES – A website/database which helps track your progress through the candidacy process. It is administered through GBHEM and managed through the Conference Office.

OTHER UNITED METHODIST CONFERENCE **Who does this?** Full or Provisional Members of other United Methodist Conferences.

Who to talk to:

Steps:

DS or
Coordinator of
Clergy Services

Introduce Yourself

1. Talk to a DS or the Coordinator of Clergy Services about serving in the SC Conference.
2. Submit a letter to the Bishop indicating a desire and willingness to be appointed in the SC Conference. Copy Clergy Services and any DS with whom you may have spoken.

DS or
Coordinator of
Clergy Services

Apply to Serve

1. Complete and submit an Approval for Service Application Form
2. Complete and submit a References Form
 - a. Include the name and contact information for your last immediate supervisor
 - b. Include the names and contact information for three other non-relative references
3. Complete and submit a Release of Information Form
4. Interview with the Approval for Service Committee if requested to do so by the Bishop.

DS or
Coordinator of
Clergy Services

If Appointed to Serve in South Carolina

1. Submit a letter to our Bishop officially requesting to be appointed in South Carolina. Copy your Bishop, Clergy Services and the DS where your appointment is projected.
2. Complete and submit a Credit Statement (Form 06SCBOM)
3. Complete and submit a Criminal Background Statement
4. Complete the Credit & Criminal Background Screening. *(After you submit your Criminal Background Statement, an email invitation will be sent with a link for you to complete a Credit Check & Criminal Background Screening. The cost will be \$20.00 and will be paid by you online.)*
5. Complete a Sexual Ethics and/or Safe Sanctuary Course prior to first day of Annual Conference before beginning the appointment. The course must be completed prior to beginning the appointment in the case of Ad-Interim appointments.

Congratulations! You're Approved to Serve in South Carolina

1. You will remain on the "Approved to Serve" list while you are appointed, and for no longer than 3 consecutive years without an appointment. After 3 consecutive years without an appointment you will need to resubmit your application.
2. If you are a Provisional Member of another Annual Conference you will be expected to:
 - a. Continue your process in your home conference
 - b. Meet annually with the Local dCOM where you are appointed.

Clergy from other United Methodist Conferences serving in South Carolina retain their membership in their home conference, and are granted voice, but not vote in the South Carolina Conference. Membership on conference boards and agencies is restricted to the Conference of which they are a member.

OTHER METHODIST DENOMINATION

Who does this? Full or Provisional Members of other Methodist Denominations.

Who to talk to:

Steps:

Coordinator of Clergy Services

Additional Definitions Specific to this Process

1. Other Methodist Denominations: (<https://worldmethodistcouncil.org/member-churches/>)
2. "At least equal to those of United Methodist elders" means that in addition to having been ordained, the clergy person has met the educational requirements or the equivalent approved by the GBHEM for full membership and ordination in the United Methodist Church and in the SCAC. GBHEM will certify that the educational requirements for the United Methodist Church have been met, and the Office of Clergy Services will certify that the requirements of the SCAC have been met.

DS or Coordinator of Clergy Services

Apply to Serve

1. Talk to a DS or the Coordinator of Clergy Services about serving in the SC Conference.
2. Complete and submit an Approval for Service Application Form (*by November 1st*)
3. Complete and submit a References Form. Include the name and contact information for your last immediate supervisor. Include the names and contact information for three other non-relative references.
4. Approval for Service Packet (*will be sent to you by the Office of Clergy Services*)
 - a. Previous United Methodist Relationship Form (<https://pdf.ac/INDyy>)
 - b. Credit Statement (Form 06SCBOM) (<https://pdf.ac/7z0AL>)
 - c. Criminal Background Statement
 - d. Proof of High School graduation or equivalent (*can be a diploma or college degree*)

Note: Submit a copy of all Completed Forms and Requested documents to the Office of Clergy Services by December 10th.
5. Complete the Credit & Criminal Background Screening. (*After you submit your Criminal Background Statement, an email invitation will be sent with a link for you to complete a Credit Check & Criminal Background Screening. Your cost will be \$20.00*)
6. Interview with the Approval for Service Committee if requested to do so by the Bishop.

Coordinator of Clergy Services

If Appointed to Serve in South Carolina

1. Submit a letter to our Bishop officially requesting to be appointed in South Carolina. Copy your Bishop (or Judicatory Officer), Clergy Services and the DS where your appointment is projected.
2. Sign the Psychological Consent Forms and submit the original to the Office of Clergy Services. Contact and begin psychological testing process with the vendor listed on the Consent Form.
3. Have a qualified Medical Professional Complete the Medical Report (Form F-103) and submit it to Clergy Services.
4. Complete and submit a Release of Information Form.
5. Submit Official College and Graduate transcripts to the Office of Clergy Services
6. Complete a Sexual Ethics and/or Safe Sanctuary Course prior to first day of Annual Conference before beginning the appointment. The course must be completed prior to beginning the appointment in the case of Ad-Interim appointments.
7. Successfully complete Licensing School (Held in April and May).

Congratulations! You're Approved to Serve in South Carolina

1. You will remain on the "Approved to Serve" list while you are appointed, and for no longer than 3 consecutive years without an appointment. After 3 consecutive years without an appointment you will need to resubmit your application.
2. To maintain your status, while serving you will be expected to:
 - a. Be enrolled in a program of theological education until your seminary degree is considered to be at least equal to that of a United Methodist Elder, or you complete the Basic Course of Study and the Advanced Course of Study, United Methodist Polity, History and Doctrine Classes. Full Time Appointments complete four courses of study per year. Part Time Appointments complete two courses of study per year. Submit an "Official" transcript to the dCOM each year showing academic progress.
 - b. Submit written Annual Report of Mentor if a Mentor is assigned.
 - c. Meet annually with the Local dCOM where you are appointed, and have your License signed and renewed annually by the DS after dCOM recommendation for continuation.

Clergy from other Methodist denominations serving in South Carolina retain their membership in their home denomination, and are granted voice, but not vote in the South Carolina Conference while appointed. Membership on conference boards and agencies is restricted to the denomination of which they are a member.

OTHER CHRISTIAN DENOMINATION

Who does this? *Ordained or licensed clergy from other non-Methodist Christian denominations.*

Who to talk to:

Steps:

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| Coordinator of Clergy Services | <p>Additional Definitions Specific to this Process</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “At least equal to those of United Methodist elders” means that in addition to having been ordained, the clergy person has met the educational requirements or the equivalent approved by the GBHEM for full membership and ordination in the United Methodist Church and in the SCAC. GBHEM will certify that the educational requirements for the United Methodist Church have been met, and the Office of Clergy Services will certify that the requirements of the SCAC have been met. |
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| DS or Coordinator of Clergy Services | <p>Apply to Serve</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Talk to a DS or the Coordinator of Clergy Services about serving in the SC Conference. 2. Complete and submit an Approval for Service Application Form (<i>by November 1st</i>) 3. Complete and submit a References Form. Include the name and contact information for your last immediate supervisor. Include the names and contact information for three other non-relative references. 4. Approval for Service Packet (<i>will be sent to you by the Office of Clergy Services</i>) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Previous United Methodist Relationship Form (https://pdf.ac/INDyv) b. Theology & Call Questions (https://pdf.ac/X3ooX) c. Credit Statement (Form 06SCBOM) (https://pdf.ac/7z0AL) d. Criminal Background Statement e. Proof of High School graduation or equivalent (<i>can be a diploma or college degree</i>) <p><i>Note: Submit a copy of all Completed Forms and Requested documents to the Office of Clergy Services by December 10th.</i></p> 5. Complete the Credit & Criminal Background Screening. (<i>After you submit your Criminal Background Statement, an email invitation will be sent with a link for you to complete a Credit Check & Criminal Background Screening. Your cost will be \$20.00</i>) 6. Interview with the Approval for Service Committee if requested to do so by the Bishop. |
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| Coordinator of Clergy Services | <p>If Appointed to Serve in South Carolina</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sign the Psychological Consent Forms and submit the original to the Office of Clergy Services. Contact and begin psychological testing process with the vendor listed on the Consent Form. 2. Have a qualified Medical Professional Complete the Medical Report (Form F-103) and submit it to Clergy Services. 3. Complete and submit a Release of Information Form. 4. Submit Official College and Graduate transcripts to the Office of Clergy Services (if you have not already done so) 5. Complete a Sexual Ethics and/or Safe Sanctuary Course prior to first day of Annual Conference before beginning the appointment. The course must be completed prior to beginning the appointment in the case of Ad-Interim appointments. 6. Successfully complete Licensing School (Held in April and May). |
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Congratulations! You're Approved to Serve in South Carolina

3. You will remain on the “Approved to Serve” list while you are appointed, and for no longer than 3 consecutive years without an appointment. After 3 consecutive years without an appointment you will need to resubmit your application.
4. To maintain your status, while serving you will be expected to:
 - a. Be enrolled in a program of theological education until your seminary degree is considered to be at least equal to that of a United Methodist Elder, or you complete the Basic Course of Study and the Advanced Course of Study United Methodist Polity, History and Doctrine Classes. Full Time Appointments complete four courses of study a year. Part Time Appointments complete two courses of study a year. Submit an “Official” transcript to the dCOM each year showing academic progress
 - b. Satisfactory written Annual Report of Mentor if a Mentor is assigned
 - c. Meet annually with the Local dCOM where you are appointed, and have your License signed and renewed annually by the DS after dCOM recommendation for continuation.

Clergy from other non-Methodist Christian denominations serving in South Carolina retain their membership in their home denomination, and are granted voice, but not vote in the South Carolina Conference while appointed. Membership on conference boards and agencies is restricted to the denomination of which they are a member.

TRANSFERRING FROM ANOTHER UNITED METHODIST CONFERENCE

Who does this? Full or Provisional Members of other United Methodist Conferences who desire to join the South Carolina Conference.

| Who to talk to: | Steps: |
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| Coordinator of Clergy Services | <p>Prerequisites:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Serve under appointment in the South Carolina Conference for two years as an OE/OP/OD. 2. All steps, forms and information required under the Approval for Service for Other United Methodist Conference Members must be complete. <i>(previous section)</i> 3. Membership Eligibility: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Elders and Deacons with Full Conference Membership in another United Methodist Conference can be received as Full Members of the South Carolina Conference. b. Clergy with Provisional Conference Membership in another United Methodist Conference can be received as Provisional Members of the South Carolina Conference. |
| DS or Coordinator of Clergy Services | <p>Process</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submit a letter to the Bishop of the South Carolina Conference and the Bishop of your home Conference officially requesting to transfer to the South Carolina Conference. Copy Clergy Services and the DS where you are appointment. Approval from both Bishops is required. 2. Interview with the Executive Committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry. 3. Be approved for transfer by the Clergy Session at the South Carolina Annual Conference. |

Congratulations! You're a member of the South Carolina Conference!

If you were received as a Provisional Member you will continue with the South Carolina Provisional to Full Member Process and will need to fulfill all of the Disciplinary and South Carolina Conference requirements for Full Membership. The eight year time limit for the Provisional to Full Member process continues (it does not start over with your transfer). The Provisional to Full Member process is included in the end of this document.

TRANSFERRING FROM ANOTHER METHODIST DENOMINATION

Who does this? Full or Provisional Members of other Methodist Denominations who desire to join the South Carolina Conference.

| Who to talk to: | Steps: |
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| Coordinator of Clergy Services | <p>Prerequisites:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Serve under appointment in the South Carolina Conference for two years as an OE/OP/OD. 2. All steps, forms and information required under the Approval for Service for Other Methodist Denomination Members must be complete. (previous section) 3. Membership Eligibility: Clergy of other Methodist denominations can have their orders recognized and be received as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Full Members Deacons or Elders of the South Carolina Conference if they have met all the current academic and process requirements to become a Deacon or Elder in full connection. b. Provisional Member (Deacon or Elder) if they have met all the current academic and process requirements to become a Provisional member, but not all the requirements for Full Membership. c. Local Pastor if they have met all the current academic and process requirements to become a Local Pastor, but not all the requirements for Provisional or Full Membership. |
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| DS or Coordinator of Clergy Services | <p>Process</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submit a letter to the Bishop of the South Carolina Conference and the Bishop of your home Conference officially requesting to transfer to the South Carolina Conference. Copy Clergy Services and the DS where you are appointment. Approval from both Bishops is required. 2. Submit official transcripts showing the completion of all Disciplinary and South Carolina Conference requirements. 3. Interview with and receive the recommendation of the dCOM where you are appointed. 4. Receive the recommendation of the DS where you are appointed. 5. Submit to Clergy Services a Credit Statement (Form 06SCBOM) (https://pdf.ac/7z0AL) 6. Submit to Clergy Services a Criminal Background Statement 7. Complete the Credit & Criminal Background Screening. <i>(After you submit your Criminal Background Statement, an email invitation will be sent with a link for you to complete a Credit Check & Criminal Background Screening. Your cost will be \$20.00)</i> 8. Have a qualified Medical Professional Complete the Medical Report (Form F-103) and submit it to Clergy Services. 9. Sign the Psychological Consent Form and submit the original to the Office of Clergy Services. Contact and begin psychological testing process with the vendor listed on the Consent Form to update your Psychological. This step can be skipped if your previous Psychological is less than 10 years old. 10. Interview with the Executive Committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry. 11. Be approved for transfer by the Clergy Session at the South Carolina Annual Conference. |
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Congratulations! You're a member of the South Carolina Conference!

1. If you were received as a Provisional Member you will continue with the South Carolina Provisional to Full Member Process and will need to fulfill all of the requirements for Full Membership. The eight year time limit for the Provisional to Full Member process continues (it does not start over with your transfer). The Provisional to Full Member process is included in the end of this document.
2. If you were received as a Local Pastor, you will be expected to maintain that status based on current Disciplinary and Conference Policy. You will be expected to:
 - a. Make satisfactory academic progress until you have completed at least the BCOS requirements. Full time LLP's – Complete four courses of study per year with the entire curriculum to be completed within eight years. Part time LLP's – Complete two courses of study per year with the entire curriculum to be completed within twelve years.
 - b. Written Annual Report of Mentor if a Mentor is assigned
 - c. Submitted a **written** statement of **educational plans** for the ensuing year to the District Committee on Ordained Ministry.
 - d. Submit an "Official" transcript to the dCOM each year showing academic progress until the completion of the Course of Study or Seminary.
 - e. Meet with the dCOM annually and receive their recommendation for continuation.
 - f. Have License signed and renewed annually by the DS after dCOM recommendation for continuation.

TRANSFERRING FROM A NON-METHODIST DENOMINATION

Who does this? *Licensed or Ordained Clergy from Non-Methodist Christian Denominations who desire to join the South Carolina Conference.*

Who to talk to:

Steps:

Coordinator of Clergy Services

Prerequisites:

1. Serve under appointment in the South Carolina Conference for two years as an OF.
2. All steps, forms and information required under the Approval for Service for Other Non-Methodist Christian Denomination Members must be complete. *(previous section)*
3. Membership Eligibility: Clergy of other Methodist denominations can have their orders recognized and be received as:
 - a. Provisional Member (Deacon or Elder) if they have met all the current academic and process requirements to become a Provisional member, but not all the requirements for Full Membership.
 - b. Local Pastor if they have met all the current academic and process requirements to become a Local Pastor, but not all the requirements for Provisional or Full Membership.

DS or Coordinator of Clergy Services

Process

1. Submit a letter to the South Carolina Bishop and the judicatory of your home denomination requesting to transfer to the South Carolina United Methodist Conference. Copy Clergy Services and the DS where you are appointment.
2. Submit official transcripts showing the completion of all Disciplinary and South Carolina Conference requirements.
3. Interview with and receive the recommendation of the dCOM where you are appointed.
4. Receive the recommendation of the DS where you are appointed.
5. Submit to Clergy Services a Credit Statement (Form 06SCBOM) (<https://pdf.ac/7z0AL>)
6. Submit to Clergy Services a Criminal Background Statement
7. Complete the Credit & Criminal Background Screening. *(After you submit your Criminal Background Statement, an email invitation will be sent with a link for you to complete a Credit Check & Criminal Background Screening. Your cost will be \$20.00.)*
8. Answer and submit to Clergy Services your answers to the Theology & Call Questions (<https://pdf.ac/X3ooX>)
9. Complete and submit to Clergy Services a Previous United Methodist Relationship Form (<https://pdf.ac/INDyv>)
10. Have a qualified Medical Professional Complete the Medical Report (Form F-103) and submit it to Clergy Services.
11. Sign the Psychological Consent Form and submit the original to the Office of Clergy Services. Contact and begin psychological testing process with the vendor listed on the Consent Form to update your Psychological. This step can be skipped if your previous Psychological is less than 10 years old.
12. Interview with the Executive Committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry.
13. Be approved for transfer by the Clergy Session at the South Carolina Annual Conference.

Congratulations! You're a member of the South Carolina Conference!

1. If you were received as a Provisional Member you will continue with the South Carolina Provisional to Full Member Process and will need to fulfill all of the requirements for Full Membership. The eight year time limit for the Provisional to Full Member process continues (it does not start over with your transfer). The Provisional to Full Member process is included in the end of this document.
2. If you were received as a Local Pastor, you will be expected to maintain that status based on current Disciplinary and Conference Policy. You will be expected to:
 - a. Make satisfactory academic progress until you have completed at least the BCOS requirements. Full time LLP's – Complete four courses of study per year with the entire curriculum to be completed within eight years. Part time LLP's – Complete two courses of study per year with the entire curriculum to be completed within twelve years.
 - b. Written Annual Report of Mentor if a Mentor is assigned
 - c. Submitted a **written** statement of **educational plans** for the ensuing year to the District Committee on Ordained Ministry.
 - d. Submit an "Official" transcript to the dCOM each year showing academic progress until the completion of the Course of Study or Seminary.
 - e. Meet with the dCOM annually and receive their recommendation for continuation.
 - f. Have License signed and renewed annually by the DS after dCOM recommendation for continuation.

PROVISIONAL MEMBER TO FULL MEMBER PROCESS

Who does this? Clergy who transferred into the South Carolina Conference as Provisional Members from other UM Conferences, Methodist Denominations or Non-Methodist Denominations

| Who to talk to: | Steps: |
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| DS or the Coordinator of Clergy Services | <p>To maintain your Provisional Membership Status you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet Annually with the dCOM • Become a Full Member within eight years • Participate in and complete the two year Formation in Ministry Program. Clergy may exempt this requirement if they have more than ten years of experience as a pastor of a congregation. |
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| | <p>Full Membership Prerequisites</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Been a Provisional Member for at least two years, no more than eight. 2. Served under Episcopal appointment full time for at least two years. One of the two must be served in SC unless waived by the BOM. 3. Met all the Provisional Member Academic Requirements 4. Completed the additional SC Academic Requirements <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Clinical Pastoral Education b. Black History or Black Studies, c. Homiletics or preaching (can be public speaking for Deacon Candidates) d. Women's studies |
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| DS or the Coordinator of Clergy Services | <p>Becoming a Full Member</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete and Submit an Application for Clergy Relationship Form (105) 2. Attend the Change of Status Meeting (in June of each year) 3. Complete the forms in the Provisional Membership Packet and return to Clergy Services <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sermon on assigned passage. b. Bible Study on assigned book of the Bible c. Theology & Doctrine Disciplinary Questions d. Call and Disciplined Life Disciplinary Questions e. Fruitfulness Project f. Medical Report (Form F-103) g. Sign the Psychological Consent Forms and submit the original to the Office of Clergy Services. h. Credit Statement (Form 06SCBOM) i. Criminal Background Statement j. Biographical Form (102) with current 2x2 photograph k. Academic Integrity Statement (13SCBOM) l. Statement of Fulfillment of Theological Studies m. 2 Seminary Recommendations n. DS supervisory Observation Report (05SCBOM) (submitted on your behalf by the DS) o. dCOM Observation Report (submitted on your behalf by the dCOM) p. Official transcripts completion of SC academic requirements <p style="color: red; font-style: italic;">Notes: 1) Submit a copy of all Completed Forms and Requested documents to the Office of Clergy Services and a copy to your district office. 2) All completed forms and requested documents should be submitted by October 1 to attend the Candidacy “</p> 4. Complete Phase II of the Psychological with the vendor listed on the Consent Form. 5. Complete the Credit & Criminal Background Screening. <i>(After you submit your Criminal Background Statement, an email invitation will be sent with a link for you to complete a Credit Check & Criminal Background Screening. The cost will be \$20.00 and will be paid online by you.)</i> 6. Meet with the four subcommittees of the BOM and be recommended by the BOM for Full membership. 7. Receive the approval of the Clergy Session at Annual Conference. |
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Congratulations! You're a Full Member!