**CRITERIA FOR ORDINATION**

**(from the CCCA Policies & Criteria document)**



**The Criteria for Candidacy for Ordination**

Step 1: Be a participating member of a congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) demonstrating support in attitude, practice, and involvement in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) through its congregations, regions, and general units;

Step 2: The applicant shall submit to the Commission for Ministry

* + - An Application For Coming Under Care & Biographical Information form
    - A summary of preparation plans for ministry (education & training plans)
    - A letter of sponsorship authorized by the official body of a congregation/ministry site

Step 3: Schedule a meeting with the Regional Commission for Ministry and work with sponsoring congregation in establishing Nurture and Guidance Committee

Step 4: Complete and submit proof of completion to the Regional Minister:

* Candidate Vocational Assessment provided by a Regionally-approved agency. The cost of this assessment will be shared with 1/3 paid by the Region, 1/3 paid by the sponsoring congregation, and a 1/3 by the Candidate
* Clergy Healthy Boundary Training
* Pro-reconciliation/Anti-Racism Training
* One unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (For a listing of current accredited CPE programs go online to: <https://www.acpe.edu/ACPE/Accreditation/Accredited_Center_Directory/ACPE/Directory/Accredited_Centers.aspx?hkey=69a7a288-ab0e-40c6-b59b-687ace4b8045>
* Disciples History & Polity Course
* A draft PDF Ministerial Profile (access the on-line completion process will be provided by the Regional Minister & the Office of Christian Vocation/Disciples Home Ministry)
* A written sermon and, if possible, a video and/or audio recording of the sermon;
* Certification of the satisfactory completion of the requirements for a ministerial degree from an accredited theological seminary. Normally this information will be presented in the form of an official transcript.

Step 4: Upon completion of all documents and requirements, schedule an Ordination interview with the

Commission for Ministry

Step 5: Upon approval of Ordination by the Commission for Ministry, the Candidate will begin the process of planning the Ordination service with the sponsoring Congregation and the Regional Minister.

Step 6: Ordination date and location provided to the Commission for Ministry