



Board of Ordained Ministry

West Virginia Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSOCIATE, PROVISIONAL, AND FULL MEMBERSHIP

To Become an Associate Member (§ 322)

1. Minimum forty years of age with four years' service as a full-time local pastor or equivalent.
2. Complete five-year Course of Study and minimum 60 hours toward B. A. or equivalent.
3. Recommended by dCOM and the Board of Ordained Ministry (BOOM).
4. Accept full-time continuing appointment.
5. Satisfy BOM physical health requirements, criminal background and credit checks.
6. Complete written doctrinal examination (§324.9) and other materials requested by BOOM.
7. Receive clergy session approval.

To Become a Provisional Member via Course of Study (§ 324.6)

1. Satisfy all requirements of Sections 1-3 and 7-14 of §324.
2. Complete bachelor's degree.
3. Complete five-year Course of Study, with no more than ½ taken online or via correspondence.
4. Complete Advanced Course of Study through a University Senate-approved seminary.
5. Submit autobiographical statement and written doctrinal exam to BOOM.
6. Present certificate of good health and Candidate's Disclosure Form 114.
7. Be interviewed by dCOM and recommended in writing to BOOM by ¾ majority vote of dCOM (§324.10).
8. Be interviewed by BOOM and recommended to clergy session by 3/4 majority vote of BOOM (§324.14).
9. Receive clergy session approval.

To Become a Provisional Member (§ 324)

1. Certified candidate for at least one year, maximum 12 years (§ 324.1).
2. Demonstrate gifts for ministry of service and leadership to the dCOM's satisfaction (§ 324.2).
3. Be interviewed by dCOM and recommended in writing to BOOM by a ¾ majority vote of BOM (§ 324.10).
4. Complete BOOM-sponsored Orientation to Ministry (§ 312).
5. Complete bachelor's degree.
6. Complete ½ of M.Div. (deacon or elder), or ½ of master's degree in specialized field plus ½ of Basic Graduate Theological Studies (deacon).
7. Present certificate of good health and Candidate's Disclosure Form 114.

8. Submit autobiographical statement and written doctrinal exam to BOOM.
9. Be interviewed by BOOM and recommended to clergy session by $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote of BOM (§ 324.14).
10. Receive clergy session approval.

To Become a Full Member Deacon (§ 330) or Elder (§ 335)

1. Been previously elected as a provisional member.
2. Serve under appointment for at least two full annual conference years.
3. Complete education requirements: M.Div. (deacon or elder); or master's degree in specialized field, plus the Basic Graduate Theological Studies (deacon).
4. Complete the Residency Program.
5. Respond to written or oral doctrinal exam administered by BOOM.
6. Present project demonstrating fruitfulness carrying out church's mission of "Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World."
7. Apply to and interview with BOOM to receive $\frac{3}{4}$ majority BOOM vote recommendation for full membership and ordination.
8. Receive $\frac{3}{4}$ majority approval of clergy session for full membership, participate in ordination service, and be ordained by a Bishop.