

*Document #1*  
**Welcome to the ACPE Certification Process!**

This information is intended to be a helpful overview of first steps and procedures as you begin your certification journey in ACPE. It does not replace two basic resources, the Certification Manual and the Certification Commission Policies and Procedures, both of which are available on the ACPE website ([acpe.edu](http://acpe.edu)) under Manuals and Certification.

Once you have been accepted into an ACPE program of Supervisory Education and have met a regional or sub-regional committee for a consultation for Readiness for Supervisory Education, you are advised to begin attending to the following:

- Upgrade your ACPE membership from Student to **Clinical Member** – contact the ACPE Associate Director, Deryck Durston, [deryck@acpe.edu](mailto:deryck@acpe.edu), to do this.
- Submit to the Associate Director your “Accountability for Ethical Conduct Policy Report Form” (Appendix 1, p. 42, 2005 ACPE Certification Manual). This does not have to be re-submitted in preparation for future committees. Only changes in your report need to be reported thereafter.
- Submit to the Associate Director your completed **Faith Group Information Form**. There is also a form for applying for recognition of your faith group as an endorser if it is not already recognized in the Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches. If you have been endorsed, please submit the **endorsement letter** for your file.
- Submit to the Associate Director documentation of your **ordination or commissioning** to practice ministry and also document your **endorsement** by your faith group to participate in the CPE Supervisory Education process.
- Submit to the Associate Director documentation of your M.Div. degree from an accredited school. If you are seeking **M.Div. equivalency**, please contact your regional certification chair to request an assessment of equivalency. This needs to be completed before you apply to meet for Candidacy. Any documentation showing equivalency should be submitted to the Associate Director.
- When all of the above is completed, you may ask for a **good standing letter** for your Candidacy materials from [deryck@acpe.edu](mailto:deryck@acpe.edu).
- Once you have been granted Candidacy status, you have entered the national certification process and may proceed with your **position papers**. You have the option of submitting your theology paper at your candidacy appearance.
- Please note that you should inform the Associate Director when you are one month from submitting your papers for review. Please also note that during holiday periods especially, readers may take as long as 90 days to read and respond to your papers. Finally, to clarify the Manual, if any of your papers have been turned down twice,

**(Welcome to Process, continued)**

you must submit the third attempt to the Associate Director for assignment to a new team of readers or you may contact your regional certification chair to request a face-to-face meeting with a regional team of readers.

**Declaration Procedures for Candidates in the National Certification Process:**

1. All candidates requesting to appear before the Commission should send a letter to the Associate Director (with a copy to the Commission Chair) as early as possible or by the deadline to declare intent to undergo review.
2. Payment of review fee (which may be made by check or credit card) should accompany the declaration in order to be placed on the list of candidates for the requested Commission meeting. Places on the docket will be awarded on a first come first served basis. Deadlines for declaring intent and submitting materials to the committee are posted on the ACPE website.
3. No fees will be refunded if the candidate changes plans after declaration unless there is a medical emergency either in the case of the candidate or of a close family member. In either case the fee will be retained for the next appearance planned by the candidate, less a \$25 administrative fee. The candidate will be responsible for any increase in fee.
4. In all other cases of withdrawal of declaration, the fee will not be refunded and will not be applied to the fee for the next planned appearance.

All questions and requests related to the Certification process should be addressed to the Associate Director, Deryck Durston, and the Chair of the Certification Commission, Jan Humphreys.

Best wishes as you begin this process.

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