

III. THE RECOGNITION OF PREVIOUS ORDINATION

A. General provisions for candidates with previous denominational ordination.

1. Submission of an "Application for ABCMC Recognition of a Previous Ordination."
2. Evidence that the candidate is a member in good standing of an Association Church of ABCMC.
3. Written official action by the Associated Church affirming its endorsement of the recognition of the previous ordination.
4. Documentation satisfactory to the Commission of completion of a four-year college degree and a three-year seminary degree, pursuant to Section I.A.2.a. of this document, or of meeting the equivalency provisions herein (see Appendix A, "Provisions for Equivalency of Education Standards").
5. Submission of a written summary of the requirements and process entailed in the previous granting of ordination in another denomination.
6. Documentation of the previous ordination in a denominationally recognized process of ordination.
7. A written report on the ministerial status of the candidate in the denomination in which she/he was previously ordained.
8. Satisfactory evidence that the candidate has knowledge of Baptist history and American Baptist polity and theological breadth (e.g., an approved course, a written paper, or review of books on the subject) and a written commitment to abide by that polity.
9. Submission of a written statement by the candidate describing her/his spiritual and ministerial pilgrimage and providing an account of her/his theology and its relation to the practice of ministry in an ABC-USA congregation or recognized ministry (see The Guidelines for Preparation of Written Submissions for the Recognition of Previous Ordination attached).
10. Signed copies of the Ministers Council Code of Ethics and the ABCMC Ministry Committee's Disclosure Statements.
11. An interview with the ABCMC Ordination Commission based on the above materials.
12. Action by the ABCMC Ordination Commission to grant official ordination standing in the ABCMC and ABC-USA.
13. The ABCMC Ordination Commission reserves the option to require the candidate to undergo an assessment by the Midwest Ministry Development Service.

B. Note that accommodations can be made for candidates for whom English is not a primary language and who were ordained by a denomination having an official relationship with ABC International Ministries.