

Trinity Conference of the Global Methodist Church

Path to Candidacy and Ordination

Note: There is some current discrepancy between the language of the *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline* and the GMC published *Candidacy Guidebook* specifically around what to call a candidate at each stage. We have chosen to use the language of “Calling to Local Church Approved Candidate” for the first part of the process and “Local Church Approved Candidate to Conference Certified Candidate” for the second part.

Calling to Local Church Approved Candidate (¶406.1)

	Requirement	Additional Information/Notes	Completed	Date
1	Initial discussion with local pastor or presiding elder	Download and discuss Path to Candidacy (this document) available at ___TBS___ (Conference Website)		
2	Membership in local church in the GMC at least one year immediately preceding initiation of process	Membership may include membership in local church in predecessor denomination or local church recently disaffiliated from predecessor denomination		
3	Secondary school diploma or equivalent or higher required			
4	Background/Criminal check	Performed by local church where the church has the capacity		
5	Download and Read <i>Candidacy Introduction Letter w/ Calling Discernment Devotional Guide</i> , and the <i>Candidacy Guidebook</i>	Process readings with local pastor or other GMC pastor as needed – Guidebook and letter available at ___TBS___ (Conference Website Link)		
6	Prepare Initial Statement of Calling	Developed and brought to local church PPRC. Describe how you are being called and what kind of ministry you are sensing the Lord calling you to.		
7	PPRC Interview	PPRC download PPRC Instruction Letter. Also download and use PPRC Candidacy Discernment Tool available at ___TBS___ (Conference website link) Expected that this will require multiple meetings.		

8	Two-thirds majority recommendation of PPRC	Retain a copy of minutes signed by PPRC Chair		
9	Conversation with Presiding Elder or designee	Discuss call and inform Presiding Elder of upcoming Charge/Church Conference vote		
10	Simple majority approval Charge/Church Conference to enter candidacy	Retain a copy of signed minutes available Once approved by local church conference, applicant becomes Local Church Approved Candidate		
11	PPRC Chair (or designee) and Candidate fill out and submit "Local Church Approved Candidate" jotform on-line	https://form.jotform.com/241343829803054 - jotform link also found in Charge Conference Agenda - automatically sends to Candidacy Registrar		

Local Church Approved Candidate to Conference Certified Candidate (§406.2-3) – Six-month Discernment Period (minimum), guided by Presiding Elder or his/her designee, in which all of the following shall take place. **Note: many of these things can happen simultaneously.**

	Requirement	Additional Information/Notes	Completed	Date
	Candidacy Registrar forwards Candidate jotform information to Candidacy Team			
1	Submit Candidacy Application Fee of \$150 Candidate receives email from Conference with instructions for how to do this	Make Check to Trinity Conference of the Global Methodist Church. Mail to - 6363 Research Forest Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77381 - Memo "Candidacy Application Fee"		
2	Conference receipt of Candidacy Application Fee begins the process for - Background Check, Credit Check, and Psychological Evaluation	Candidate - Begin this part of process and proceed immediately with Supervised Internship/Employment and Mentoring		

3	Candidate - Complete email authorization for Background Check and Credit Check	Checks will be ordered by Conference Office		
4	Schedule and have Psychological Evaluation	Currently performed by "Mind Works Counseling, LLC"		
5	Arrange and begin a Supervised Internship or Employment in a ministry setting	Six (6) months		
6	Complete Internship Experiences Checklist	Checklist available here _____ (link TBD)		
7	Assignment of Mentor and Small Group for minimum of six months	Assigned by Candidacy Team – Mentor to provide assistance in discernment regarding and in response to ministry experiences; Work through <i>Guidebook</i> . Concurrent with internship.		
8	Update Initial Statement of Calling so that it becomes a Formal Statement of Calling to BOM	Includes faith story, initial calling, description of discernment period and how the calling has been clarified (including whether called to Deacon or Elder), plan to pursue calling - submit to BOM via ____ (new Jotform needed?)		
9	Request a letter of recommendation from your Pastor			
10	Request a Mentor letter of recommendation			
11	Complete "Conference Candidate Paperwork Submission Form for Certification" jotform online	https://form.jotform.com/240474600812045 This will be reviewed and if complete will move forward to Interview with Candidacy Team		
10	Interview with Candidacy Team			
	Candidacy Team votes whether or not to recommend	Simple majority required		

	Candidate to full Conference Board of Ministry			
11	Upon approval by full Board, Candidate is informed of Conference Certified Candidate status and Candidate fills out Clergy Membership Application online	Link on GMC website - https://form.jotform.com/230624491046149		

Conference Certified Candidate to Preparation for Ordination as Deacon (¶¶406.4, 407)

	Requirement	Additional Information/Notes	Completed	Date
1	Assignment of Certified Candidate to Wesleyan Class Meeting Group			
2	Fulfillment of educational requirements	Must be in allowable time		
3	Complete and Submit packet for ordination as Deacon	Packet found on Conference Website		