Virginia Conference Board of Ordained Ministry

Educational Requirements Worksheet for Provisional Membership

Name _____   **Theological School** _____

The *Discipline* lists the following specific course requirements that must be included in graduate theological education <u>prior to provisional membership</u> in the United Methodist Church. List the courses on your transcript that meet each requirement. In addition, completion of an undergraduate (bachelor's) degree is required prior to any graduate theological course work. **In the space provided below, <u>list the name of the course and semester/year; list school if different than above.</u>**

- Old Testament _____

- New Testament _____

- Theology _____

- Church history _____

- Mission of the church in the world _____

  _____

- Worship/liturgy _____

- Evangelism _____

- A minimum of two semester or three-quarter hours in each of the fields of United Methodist history, doctrine, and polity.

  _____

- A course in preaching

  _____

In addition to the above requirements, the Virginia Conference Board of Ordained Ministry requires that all candidates for ordination complete **at least ½ unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)** <u>by the application deadline for ordination as a deacon or elder and full membership in the conference.</u> The Board strongly encourages completion of CPE prior to provisional membership. CPE must be taken at a CPE site that is accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE). Online CPE programs are not accepted.

Location: _____   Date:_____

The Virginia Conference Board of Ordained Ministry strongly encourages completion of United Methodist doctrine prior to applying for provisional membership. The Board recommends courses in Christian education and systematic theology for all candidates.

The Virginia Conference Board of Ordained Ministry allows **up to 1/2 of all course work** to be completed through distance education, with no more than 1/3 of the course work to be completed by fully asynchronous methods. The United Methodist Church allows online courses to be taken only at one of the 13 official United Methodist seminaries or Asbury Theological Seminary. Distance education includes all correspondence, online and hybrid courses in which the students and faculty are not in the same physical location. "Asynchronous" courses are those in which students and faculty are neither in the same physical location nor online at the same time.

Please indicate how many semester hours in your degree program were completed online: _____

Although each seminary has the responsibility to designate which basic courses meet the core requirements and advise students of these courses, the conference Board of Ordained Ministry will have the final authority to approve academic studies. Questions should be addressed to the Conference Registrar, JessieColwell@vaumc.org.