



# Path to Become A PROVISIONAL MEMBER

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Be a licensed local pastor or become a certified candidate for at least one year by July 1 of the year in which you are applying for provisional membership.

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Complete a bachelor's degree from a college or university recognized by the University Senate. Exceptions to undergraduate degree may be made for missional purposes, but at least 60 credit hours must be completed.

## For those pursuing ordination as an elder

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Complete a Masters of Divinity degree from an accredited seminary by May of the application year. Your classes must meet the Educational Requirements as set forth by the UMC & VAUMC.

**or**

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Local pastors can meet this requirement by serving four years of full-time service and completing the Course of Study & Advanced Course of Study.

## For those pursuing ordination as a deacon

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Complete a Masters degree from an accredited seminary by May of the application year. Your classes must meet the Educational Requirements as set forth by the UMC & VAUMC.

**or**

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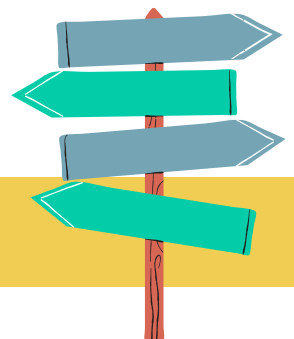
Complete a master's degree in the area of specialized ministry in which the candidate will serve by May of the application year. Your classes must meet the Educational Requirements as set forth by the UMC & VAUMC.

**or**

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Follow the professional certification process as outlined in paragraph 324.5 in the BOD. Your classes must meet the Educational Requirements as set forth by the UMC & VAUMC.

Requirements continued on pg. 2





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Submit the follo  
Unity Web

**For everyone**

- ☐ Apply from July 1-31 through the online jotform application found at <https://vaumc.org/bomapplications/>. Application will include turning in official transcripts.
- ☐ Candidate is invited to the Provisional Applicant Track in Unity. (Checklist for additional materials tracked in Unity).
- ☐ Submit written materials using your Unity Track.
- ☐ Receive date and time for interview for provisional membership recommendation from dCOM Chair.
- ☐ Receive a recommendation for provisional membership from the dCom by October 1.
- ☐ Attend orientation to the provisional application process Zoom meeting.
- ☐ Candidate is invited to Provisional Track in Unity.
- ☐ Medical Report form, if not completed within the previous year.
- ☐ EQi (Emotional Intelligence Assessment) and debrief session.
- ☐ Field Education or equivalency
- ☐ Clinical Pastor Education (CPE) 0.5 units if completed (not due until ordination).
- ☐ Psychological Assessment, if not completed in last 5 years.

Requirements continued on pg. 3

updated 9/22/2025





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**For everyone**

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Theological School Recommendation.

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Papers on Call, Personal Growth and Development, Practice of Ministry and Theology.

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Sign and date the BOM's Plagiarism Policy.

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All materials are due the first week in January (date varies by year).

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If all materials meet the requirements as set in the application packet a provisional interview will be scheduled for the end of February (dates vary by year).

## Questions? Contact the Center for Clergy Excellence

Jessie Colwell, Director of Clergy Excellence, [jessiecolwell@vaumc.org](mailto:jessiecolwell@vaumc.org)

Jason Stanley, Director of Call & Candidacy, [jasonstanley@vaumc.org](mailto:jasonstanley@vaumc.org)

Lyn Harding, Program Admin Coordinator, [lynharding@vaumc.org](mailto:lynharding@vaumc.org)

