

**AMERICAN BAPTIST
CHURCHES USA
SEMINARIAN CHECKLIST**



American Baptist Personnel Services

The following are items you need to consider carefully in preparation for seeking your place as a Ministerial Leader in active ministry within the American Baptist Churches USA.

- Maintain your membership in an American Baptist Church.
- Be sure that your seminary registrar's office has you enrolled as an American Baptist.
- Contact the Financial Aid Office of American Baptist Home Mission Societies in Valley Forge for information about seminarian financial resources, such as grants and loans.
(800-222-3872, X2067)
- Join the American Baptist Ministers Council in your region (or in the region of your seminary.)
- Attend association, area, region, national meetings to become better acquainted with the ABCUSA at all levels of ministry.
- Take the American Baptist history/polity course to meet the ordination requirements of the American Baptist Churches USA.
- Know the ordination requirements of the region in which your ordination will take place.
- Enroll in American Baptist Personnel Services (ABPS) before your final year of school. This requires a Validation Form signed by the Executive Minister where you have your church membership.

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- Meet with your region executive and/or area minister prior to your senior year. Interview with other executive and area ministers who come to the campus to meet with potential ministerial leaders.
- Contact American Baptist Home Mission Societies staff located in Valley Forge who are responsible for ministries in which you have special abilities /interests: Chaplaincy, Overseas Missions, New Church Planting, Christian Center Ministry through the Neighborhood Action Program, Ethnic Ministries, etc. (www.abc-usa.org)
- Meet with the ABPS staff when on your campus and keep in touch with them in writing, by calling the toll free number (800-392-2343), or e-mail (abps@abhms.org).
- Discover and utilize the resources of the seminary for your first place in professional ministry.
- Update your ABPS Profile the semester prior to graduation.

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