



Ecclesiastical Recognition: Phase 1: Preparation Stage

For your ecclesiastical recognition of choice, you must meet **ALL** of the criteria/requirements **BEFORE** submitting a request for an application. **No exceptions.**

Category of Ecclesiastical Recognition	American Baptist Church Membership	Current ABPS Profile	Bachelor's Degree from ACE member college or university	Graduate theological degree from a school accredited by ATS	American Baptist License/Ordination	# of Units of CPE from either ACPE- or CPSP- accredited center ⁴	Pastoral Ministry and Leadership Experience
Military Chaplain Candidate Approval¹	YES	Preferred	YES	Letter of Admission	Licensed by American Baptist church preferred	None required	---
Endorsement: Military Chaplain (Active Duty)¹	YES	YES	YES	YES, 72-semester hours	Ordination	None required	Minimum of 2 years post-seminary
Endorsement: Military Chaplain (Reserve)¹	YES	YES	YES	YES, 72-semester hours	Ordination	None required	Minimum of 2 years post-seminary
Endorsement: Military Chaplain (National Guard)¹	YES	YES	YES	YES, 72-semester hours	Ordination	None required	Minimum of 2 years post-seminary



Endorsement: Campus Chaplain	YES	YES	YES	YES, 72- semester hours	Ordination	At least 1 unit	Minimum of 2 years post- seminary
Endorsement: Civil Air Patrol Chaplain¹	YES	YES	YES	YES, 72- semester hours	Ordination	---	Minimum of 2 years post- seminary
Endorsement: Community Chaplain	YES	YES	YES	YES, 72- semester hours	Ordination	At least 1 unit	Minimum of 2 years post- seminary
Endorsement: Correctional Chaplain²	YES	YES	YES	YES, 72- semester hours	Ordination	2 units ^{2A}	Minimum of 2 years post- seminary
Endorsement: Healthcare/VA	YES	YES	YES	YES, 72- semester hours	Ordination	4 units	Minimum of 2 years post- seminary
Endorsement: Healthcare³ (limited)	YES	YES	YES	YES, minimum of 48- semester hours ³	Ordination	2 units ³	Minimum of 2 years post- seminary
Endorsement: Pastoral Counselor	YES	YES	YES	YES, 72- semester hours	Ordination	4 units	Minimum of 2 years post- seminary
CURRENT ENDORSEES - Endorsement: Correctional Chaplaincy²	Must recertify	On file from existing endorsement	On file from existing endorsement	On file from existing endorsement	On file from existing endorsement	On file from existing endorsement	Minimum of 3 years chaplaincy experience



¹ Applicants for Military Chaplaincy, Chaplain Candidate or Civil Air Patrol must meet all of the requirements set by the branch. Visit the respective military chaplains' web site for additional information.

² Current and active ENDORSED Military Chaplains, Healthcare/VA chaplains, and Pastoral Counselors in good standing, may apply for endorsement as Correctional Chaplain. Specific requirements and criteria for endorsement may be requested from the AB Chaplaincy & Pastoral Counseling Ministries office.

^{2A} American Baptist clergy who are not presently endorsed may apply for endorsement as correctional facilities chaplain. 'Provisional endorsement' may be obtained with one unit of CPE.

³ Employment and certification limitations apply. Healthcare chaplains with only 2 units of CPE may be limited to certification as 'associate certified chaplains' or limited from qualifying for employment with some agencies. Consult with employing agencies and review APC certification requirements for further clarification.

⁴ Must submit evaluation forms as well as official documentation of earned units from ACPE or CPSP.

Questions: endorsement@abhms.org

Once you have carefully reviewed and met ALL of the criteria and requirements for your Ecclesiastical endorsement category, you are ready to request an application.

Kindly email us with the following information:

1. Ecclesiastical Recognition for which you want to apply
2. Your full Name and telephone contact information

One of our associate endorsers will be in communication with you.