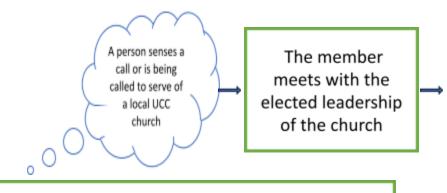
ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE, UCC Colorado • Utah • Wyomina

Process to obtain Lay Ministerial Standing

Lay Ministerial Standing is an accountable covenantal relationship among the Conference, the lay member and a Local Church of the UCC that is intended as a temporary authorization in contexts where an ordained minister is not available full time. Lay Ministerial Standing is specific to the location of service, is time-bound, with renewals expected every 2 years. Lay Ministerial Standing grants full sacramental authority within that local setting. Lay Ministerial Standing does not grant the individual authorization to represent the United Church of Christ beyond the local setting for ministry for which they have been authorized, or with individuals who do not have a connection with that local setting for ministry. Sacramental authority, including that of officiating at marriages, is approved only in connection with that specific location.



If Local church leadership affirms sense of call, they initiate contact with Pre-Auth Committee, and submit a letter that includes reason for wanting to authorize this member and expectations of this role.

Member submits application and documents to pre-auth-reg@rmcucc.org for meeting with Pre-Auth COM

Meeting Pre-Auth: Once documents have been submitted, Pre-Auth meets

with the member and representatives

from the local church and together

they review documents and call

agreement.

*Standing Documents:

Tier 1, for initial authorization, submit with application

- -Criminal background check
- -Self Disclosure Form
- -Letter confirming membership in local church or date confirmed for becoming a member
- -Local church call agreement/terms of service
- -Three letters of reference

Tier 2, may be required for renewal after 1 year

- a UCC history/polity course.
- -Certificate of completion for approved Boundary Training.
- -Certificate of completion for approved Racial Justice Training.
- -A reflection on the <u>Marks of Faithful and Effective Ministry</u>.
- -A sermon.
- A reflection on the candidate's theological understanding of a specified area of ministry required in their proposed call agreement
- -An approved psychological evaluation

The authorization will be reviewed and renewed annually for two more years. Include discernment about the right path. After three one-year terms, the Committee may grant the authorization for three years at a time, pending review at the end of each term.

Pre-Auth
Committee
identifies a UCC
minister in the
RMC to serve as
a mentor for the
one being
authorized.

Following the meeting, the Pre-Auth Committee will recommend any additional training, reading, or support as a condition of their approval or may schedule submission of additional materials during the first year of the authorization or as condition of renewal.