

The Process for Recognition of  
Non-American Baptist Ordinations

by the

AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF OHIO

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1. The candidate shall prepare the following documentation:
  - a. Two (2) photocopies of his/her Ordination Certificate. *[It is optional to provide copies of their License];*
  - b. Two (2) letters of character reference. *[One of the two letters must be a letter of ministerial standing from the previous denomination];*
  - c. A copy of the Ordination Paper (theological statement) prepared for his/her Ordination Council. *[If none was written previously, then the candidate shall prepare a paper following the guidelines that may be obtained from the office of the Adjunct Staff person for the State Advisory Committee on Ordination];*
  - d. A copy of his/her college or seminary diploma and/or transcript;
  - e. Indication of which of the three tracks (as listed in the Recommended Procedures for Ordination Manual, available from the Region Office) most closely resembles the previous path to ordination. *[A candidate who is deficient in any aspects within the chosen track must meet those deficiencies];*
  - f. Indication of satisfactory completion of a course in Baptist History and Polity. *[A candidate who has not completed a seminary level course may arrange with the Adjunct Staff person for SAC to secure a tutor to complete this requirement].*
  
2. The candidate shall meet with an Association Pastoral Relations Committee whose agenda shall be to understand the following:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Biography;</li><li>b. Spiritual pilgrimage, including conversion;</li><li>c. Call to ministry;</li></ol> |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>d. Educational preparation for ministry;</li><li>e. Reasons for desiring entry into the ministry of the American Baptist Churches.</li></ol> |
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3. After completing steps one and two, the candidate shall seek an appointment with the State Advisory Committee on Ordination whose agenda shall be to do the following:
  - a. Review his/her credentials;
  - b. Understand the call to ministry;
  - c. Determine the candidate's understanding and subscription to The Covenant and Code of Ethics for Professional Church Leaders of the American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A.;
  - d. Determine whether or not the candidate has satisfied the requirements for Track I, II or III for recognition of ordination and convey such information to the candidate's local church, region and the official registry of the Ministers Council of the American Baptist Churches USA, Valley Forge, PA.
  
4. Completion of a comprehensive career and candidacy assessment program sponsored by or in consultation with an American Baptist related Career Development Center within five years prior to examination by the State Advisory Committee on Ordination. A copy of the report is to be requested by the candidate to be sent to the Committee (Adjunct Staff Person).
  
5. The candidate must enroll with the American Baptist Personnel Services. Upon recognition of ordination, a packet of computer materials for \$25.00 may be obtained from the **American Baptist Personnel Services, P.O. Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851.**

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