

ORDINATION PROCESS — RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTIES

AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF OHIO

CANDIDATE

1. Seminary or Alternate Education (includes course in American Baptist History and Polity)
2. Licensing by local church
3. Select Sponsor/Mentor
4. Write Ordination Paper
5. Complete Career and Candidate Assessment program
6. Meet with a Region Staff member to review guidelines and ordination process
7. Meet with Association Pastoral Relations Committee (may also be required before licensing)
8. Meet with State Advisory Committee on Ordination
9. Meet with Association Ordination Council
10. Upon recommendation of Ordination Council, plan ordination in association with local church

LOCAL CHURCH

1. Maintain contact with student while in training
2. License candidate and report to Association and ABC/Ohio
3. Request information on ordination process from State Advisory Committee on Ordination, or download from ABC/Ohio website (www.abc-ohio.org), and request meeting of Association Pastoral Relations Committee with candidate
4. Recommends candidate to State Advisory Committee on Ordination
5. Call Ordination Council of Association upon State Advisory Committee recommendation
6. Upon recommendation of Ordination Council, ordain candidate and report action to local Association and ABC/Ohio, State Advisory Committee on Ordination

ASSOCIATION

1. Pastoral Relations Committee meet with candidate prior to State Advisory Committee, if such a committee exists in Association (may also be required by Association before licensing). The PRC will review the ordination paper and suggest appropriate revisions, if necessary before the candidate comes to the State Advisory Committee on Ordination.
2. Send delegates to Ordination Council from each church; moderate Ordination Council
3. Make recommendation to local church for further action

STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ORDINATION

1. Prepare and communicate guidelines to candidate and/or local church and Association
2. Upon request of local church and recommendation of Association Pastoral Relations Committee, meet with candidate and sponsor, and recommend further action to local church
3. Report ordination to ABC/Ohio and to the ABC/USA ministry registry (ABCIS).