



Volunteers Needed

Credentialing Committee (8 members)

We are seeking lay people and ministry personnel who can assess a minister's qualifications for specialized ministries and roles, readmission to ministry, or moving to another ministry stream.

Mandate

The Credentialing Committee responds to applications from ministry personnel for the following, determining credentials according to the policy and processes of the General Council and guided by the pertinent resources:

- intentional interim ministers (for initial and continuing designation)
- review of sabbatical plans for intentional interim ministers
- educational supervisors
- readmission to the Order of Ministry
- members of the Order of Ministry moving from one stream of ministry to another
- military chaplains, in partnership with the Military Chaplain Working Group
- peer reviews for other chaplains as required

The committee may ensure support for special ministries, such as intentional interim ministries and chaplaincies.

As needed, the committee is in dialogue with other Office of Vocation committees, Office of Vocation staff, as well as bodies that provide support and training, such as the Ministry of Supervision training team, the Canadian Association for Spiritual Care (CASC), the Interim Ministry Network, the Interim Ministry Community of Practice, and the Canadian Forces Chaplaincy Working Group.

All boards and committees of the General Council play a role in living into the [Call and Vision](#) of the United Church in fulfilling their responsibilities. Boards and committees work in partnership with the General Council Office as it implements the objectives of the strategic plan.

Membership

The Credentialing Committee consists of eight members who reflect the broad diversity of the United Church, with particular attention to its equity commitments and the presence of both lay people and ministry personnel from across the geography of the church.

To honour the separation of responsibilities assigned to regional councils and those assigned to the Office of Vocation, members of Office of Vocation committees and boards cannot also serve on a body of the regional council with decision-making responsibilities that relate to or affect pastoral relations or pastoral relationships.

To ensure continuity, approximately half of the committee positions will be filled through the reappointment of currently serving members.

Member Skills and Experience

Assets to this committee include a background in intentional interim ministry, experience in educational supervision or chaplaincy; interview skills, including listening and asking open-ended questions; and discerning the leading of the Spirit.

Committee members will be

- active in a community of faith or ministry
- committed to the practice of ministry within The United Church of Canada
- predisposed to collaboration and teamwork
- able to listen and discern
- committed to right relations, the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and their relevance to ministry personnel, the vision of becoming an intercultural church, and the journey to becoming an anti-racist denomination
- comfortable with and able to participate in electronic meetings
- able to commit the time required for this responsibility

United Church Relationship: Full member

Equity Commitment

The United Church is committed to working toward the full participation of people with disabilities; youth and young adults; those who identify as 2SLGBTQIA+, Indigenous, racialized, or francophone; people active in French ministries; those who speak a primary language other than English or French; and people from marginalized communities not named here. This is a part of the United Church's commitments to equity and self-determination, as well as eliminating barriers and working toward the full participation of all people.

It is a priority of the Board of Vocation to appoint people with these named identities and lived experiences to the work of all of its committees and boards.

Expectations and Term

The committee meets five to eight times each year by videoconference call and may meet in person as necessary. Much of the work of this committee occurs between meetings. Committee members are expected to review applications and evaluations, as well as interview applicants for the various categories of credentialing between committee meetings.

Members of this committee agree to a [Behavioural Covenant](#) as a way of committing to mutual relationships, responsibilities, and accountabilities.

The term of this appointment is for three years (August 2025–August 2028) with the possibility of reappointment for a second three-year term.

About the Office of Vocation

The Office of Vocation is the body in the United Church that maintains the registry of accredited ministry personnel through setting standards for accreditation and assessing those who wish to serve as ministry personnel. It supports the processes for the discernment and training of ministry personnel, the determination of their fitness/readiness for accreditation, the fulfillment of continuing education standards, and the formal processes for oversight and discipline of ministry personnel. To carry out its responsibilities, the Office consists of the Board of Vocation and several committees and commissions.

[Learn more](#) about the Office of Vocation and its goal of faithful, well-equipped, and effective ministry personnel.

Visit our [opportunities page](#) for information on this and other opportunities.
Use our [online nominations form](#) to nominate someone or express your own interest.
Deadline: Thursday, March 27, 2025.