



DEFINITION: For the purpose of this process, “at least equal to those of United Methodist elders” means that in addition to having been ordained, the clergy person has met the educational requirements or the equivalent approved by the GBHEM for full membership and ordination in the United Methodist Church and in the SCAC. GBHEM will certify that the educational requirements for the United Methodist Church have been met, and the Office of Clergy Services will certify that the requirements of the SCAC have been met.

¶ 347.2 Transfers, Ordained Clergy from Methodist Denominations- Ordained elders or ordained clergy from other Methodist churches may be received by transfer into provisional or full conference membership or as local pastors, with the consent of the bishops or other authorities involved, without going through the process required for ministers from other denominations. The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry shall establish a list of denominations that meet this definition.

1. **Ordained Clergy from Methodist Denominations** provisional, full or local pastor
 - a. Other Methodist Denominations are defined by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the South Carolina United Methodist Conference as those listed by the World Methodist Council as member Churches. (<https://worldmethodistcouncil.org/member-churches/>)
 - b. A clergy person ordained in another Methodist denomination desiring to transfer into the UMC under paragraph 347.2 shall have served in the SCAC for a minimum of two years either as a 346.1 appointment or as a local pastor.
 - c. Such clergy person desiring to transfer in shall indicate this desire in a letter to the Bishop, Coordinator of Clergy Services and the Chair of the BOM.
 - d. Prior to the meeting with the Executive Committee of the BOM, the clergy person shall complete all of the following requirements:
 - i. The clergyperson shall receive the consent of the bishops or authorities involved.
 - ii. All steps required by 346.1 must be completed before a transfer under 347.2 takes effect.
 - iii. The clergyperson shall verify that he/she has met the educational requirements or the equivalent approved by the GBHEM for full or provisional membership of the United Methodist Church and in the SCAC. GBHEM will certify that the educational requirements for the United Methodist Church have been met, and the Office of Clergy Services will certify that the requirements of the SCAC have been met. Clergypersons are eligible to be received as:
 1. Deacons or Elders in Full Connection if they have met all the current academic and process requirements to become a Deacon or Elder in full connection.
 2. Provisional Member (Deacon or Elder) if they have met all the current academic and process requirements to become a Provisional member, but not all the requirements for Full Membership.

3. Local Pastor if they have met all the current academic and process requirements to become a Local Pastor, but not all the requirements for Provisional or Full Membership.
- iv. Receives the recommendation of the District Committee on Ordained Ministry.
- v. Receives the recommendation of the District Superintendent.
- vi. Submit a “Notarized Criminal Background Statement (07SCBOM),” and pay the background check fee online at:
<https://www.umcsc.org/backgroundcheckpayment/>
- vii. Submit Medical Report (Form F-103) to be completed by physician of candidate choosing
- viii. Submit Credit Statement ¶ 310.2b (Form 06SCBOM)
- ix. Psychological Testing will be required if previous Psychological test is ten years or more old.
- e. Be interviewed by and receive an affirmative vote by the Executive Committee of the BOM.
- f. Receive an affirmative vote during the Clergy Session
- g. If received as a Provisional Member of the SCAC, clergy will
 - i. participate in the SCAC Formation in Ministry program designed by the Committee on Formation in Ministry and approved by the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry. The provisional Formation Program includes both a two-year Residency program and a continuing support program.” The two-year “Formation in Ministry” program, for Provisional Members may be satisfied by at least ten years prior service as an active clergy in good standing. In cases where the Formation in Ministry program is not required, a clergy mentor shall be assigned by the dCOM.
 - ii. Will serve, proceed and be afforded the rights of provisional membership under ¶s 326 & 327 (Including the eight year time limit in which they must apply for full conference membership under the Conference policy).
 - iii. Provisional Members shall be required to meet annually with the District Committee on Ordained Ministry of the district under which they are appointed for support and nurture. dCOM shall submit an observation report on the annual meeting to the Office of Clergy Services.
 - iv. The BOM shall review written Annual Report from the Mentor and a copy of the report shall be sent to the Conference Associate Registrar for Clergy Mentors.
- h. If received as a Local Pastor in the SCAC, clergy will
 - i. Local Pastors shall be required to meet annually with and be recommended for continuation by the District Committee on Ordained Ministry of the district under which they are appointed.
 - ii. **License** to be **signed annually** at meeting with District Committee.
 - iii. Continuation approved annually by the Clergy Session of the Annual Conference upon the recommendation of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry
 - iv. Satisfactory written report of Mentor if a Mentor is assigned.

- v. Full-time Local Pastor (318.1)
 - 1. Completed annually a minimum of **FOUR courses** in the Ministerial Course of Study (¶318.1) until completion of the five-year program. (Must be completed within eight years. ¶319.3)
 - 2. Making progress towards completion of a minimum of sixty semester/ninety quarter hours towards the B.A. or equivalent degree in an accredited college or university or option as noted in ¶318.3.
- vi. Part-time Local Pastor (318.2)
 - 1. Completed annually a minimum of **two courses** in the Ministerial Course of Study (¶318.2) until completion of the five-year program. (must be completed within twelve years. ¶319.3)
 - 2. Making progress towards completion of minimum of sixty semester/ninety quarter hours towards the B.A. or equivalent degree in an accredited college or university.