

Pacific Northwest Annual Conference Continuing Education Policy for all Clergy in Appointments

Rationale:

1. To promote the retooling of Pacific Northwest clergy to meet the new demands of leadership and church health and growth needed to lead our United Methodist churches in the new century.
2. To develop a clergy ethos of life-long learning for the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference.
3. To ensure accountability of our clergy for the disciplinary requirement of personal and professional growth and development.

Policy:

In order to be eligible to receive an appointment in the PNW AC, all Elders, Deacons, Local Pastors, retired ministers (currently serving in an appointment), and Extension ministers shall complete a minimum of 2 CEU's or 20 contact hours of learning/training each appointment year, applicable to their ministry and order. CEUs and contact hours cannot be "banked" for future years. The intent is to have clergy do continuing education each year. While 20 contact hours is the minimum requirement, the Board of Ordained Ministry recommends 4 CEU's or 40 contact hours per appointment year. Sexual misconduct and cultural competency workshops are included in these contact hours.

The BOM does not determine what qualifies as a continuing education course. It is the responsibility of each appointed leader to be working with their District Superintendent on a continuing education and leadership growth plan, and what qualifies as continuing education. The Formation Committee will serve as a resource for questions, clarifications, and funding issues regarding the pursuit of continuing education. Please contact Rev. Joanne Coleman Campbell at jecolecamp@gmail.com with any questions. It will be the responsibility of each clergy member to report continuing education training by December 31 of each year, or in the case of the Order of Deacons, on the already established yearly report. Reporting forms are available on the Conference website, and completed forms may be turned into the District Service Center, who will inform the Formation Committee and the appropriate District Superintendent.

As required by The Book of Discipline (¶¶351 and 334.4), each clergy will present his/her continuing education report at the yearly Charge Conference. Each District Superintendent will track and monitor every clergyperson's CEU requirement at his/her annual Covenant and Ministry Assessment supervisory meeting.

While continuing education/formation for appointed clergy is mandated by The Book of Discipline, the Board of Ordained Ministry believes that it should be a self-motivating desire for each clergy member to grow and develop one's leadership and skills.

Check the following websites for Continuing Education information:

- United Methodist Continuing Education Web site: <http://www.gbhem.org>
- The Society for the Advancement for Continuing Education in Ministry; an ecumenical professional organization: <http://www.sacem.com/>
- Faith and Wisdom: an ecumenical listing of continuing education events: <http://www.faithandwisdom.org/>
- Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE): <http://www.acpe.edu>/
- The Association of Practical Theology: <http://www.practicaltheology.org/>
- Continuing education approved by the UM Board of Discipleship or any agency of the UMC or the American Psychological Association or Alban Institute

There are 2 separate funds to help pay for continuing education. Each clergyperson under appointment is eligible for \$350 each year for regular CE. In addition, there is \$1,000 available each quadrennium per clergy under appointment for extended programs of a minimum of 8 CEUs or 80 contact hours). These funds cannot be carried over year-to-year or quadrennium to quadrennium.

Also available is a one time grant of \$225 for Spiritual Direction for anyone currently appointed to a church.