

Dakotas Annual Conference  
Requirements for Full Membership  
Elder/Deacon (Ordination)



**Due September 1** (to be Ordained at upcoming Annual Conference)

- Spiritual journey statement** (concise narrative) which reflects personal life, family and ministry experiences to include: *\*please note this is different document than your provisional autobiographical statement 3-6 pages (6-page limit).*
  1. How these experiences shape and impact your current and future servant leadership for making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world
  2. Your leadership experience in the church and its impact on your continued call to ministry (5-page limit)
- Sermon transcript and recording of sermon presentation** (visual multi-media format).

The sermon needs to be one that illustrates your ability to inspire the people of your ministry setting to make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The Candidate may choose scripture. The scripture needs to be included in the front page of your sermon transcript. Sermon should be recorded before congregation/appropriate ministry setting.

**Bible Study:** Written plan and outline for an original six-week bible study that you have created and taught within your ministry setting based on a biblical book of your choice, such as Job, Matthew, etc. Include a brief post-study evaluation including the teaching context (i.e. youth, confirmation, adult) how it was received, and what you learned in the process, etc. There is no specified length for the Sermon or Bible Study, however, use this time to illustrate your ability to write with expression, yet in a **concise manner**.
- If Elder's track, **written responses to the doctrinal questions in the Book of Discipline 2016 ¶ 335** sections a, b, and c (a minimum of 15 pages to a maximum of 20 pages).
- If Deacon's track, **written responses to doctrinal questions in the Book of Discipline 2016 ¶330.5 a, b, and c** 15-20 pages (20-page limit).
- "Making Disciples"** Project-see separate file on our website.

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- All written materials should be double spaced, using one-inch margins and 12 pt. Times New Roman Font.
  - Make sure your reflections show depth of thought and are absent of grammatical syntax errors. Use appropriate academic citations<sup>1</sup> (no plagiarism) including a full bibliography/works cited page as this is considered professional writing/work at a graduate level.
  - The 2016 Book of Discipline clearly states. *"the candidate should demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly in both oral and written form"* (¶¶330, 335).
  - It is recommended that your written work is proofed by a Full Elder at least three weeks prior to the deadline. If the candidate needs suggested names, please contact the Leadership Development office by August 1.
  - Written materials are to be emailed as attachments to the Leadership Development office [leadershipdevelopment@dakotasumc.org](mailto:leadershipdevelopment@dakotasumc.org) in PDF format. File named as such:
    - *Autobio\_Beiber\_2018, SermonTranscript\_Bieber\_2018, BibleStudy\_Job or Matthew\_Bieber\_2018, BOD\_Elder or Deacon\_Beiber\_2018, MakingDisciples\_Beiber\_2018*

<sup>1</sup>Use [Sermon videos need to be uploaded using Vimeo in the candidate sheet](#). University of Chicago Press, 2013



**IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE BOM COMMITTEE:**

**If the above criteria and guidelines are not met, the candidate will not be invited for an interview by the BOM committee. You will be notified at the latest by September 15th.**