

Provisional Membership Requirements Elder or Deacon (Commissioning)



Due September 1 to be commissioned at upcoming Annual Conference

Autobiographical Statement which reflects your faith, family, health and academic journey to your call to ministry, and your future for servant leadership - min. 3 pages, max. 6 pages (BOD ¶1324.13)

Proclaiming the Word

[Sermon Video Uploading Instructions](#)

Elder - prepare and give an original sermon that includes a call to action, to move people to respond. You choose the Scripture and include the text on the front page of your transcript. Sermon needs to be videoed live before a congregation or ministry setting. Cite resources used.

Deacon - prepare a sermon described above OR prepare and give an original 4 week Bible study on a book of your own choosing. Cite resources used. Include teaching context & how people reacted.

Doctrinal Questions

Min. 15 pages, max. 20 pages including works cited page

Elder track: written responses to the doctrinal questions in BOD 2016 ¶1335 sections a, b, and c

Deacon track: written responses to the doctrinal questions in BOD 2016 ¶1330.5 a, b, and c

Psychological Assessment – call your provider and schedule an appointment so the report is received by October 1st.

Background and Credit Check – contact the Conference Office for required forms.

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- All written materials must be double-spaced, 1” margins, and 12 pt. Times New Roman Font.
 - Make sure your reflections show depth of thought and are absent of grammatical syntax errors.
 - Candidates must communicate clearly in oral and written form (¶¶1330, 335)
 - It is highly recommended that your work is proofed by a Full Elder or Deacon not on the Board of Ordained Ministry at least 3 weeks before the deadline. Contact the Leadership Development office for suggested clergy.
 - Submit materials as separate PDFs to leadershipdevelopment@dakotasumc.org
 - Name files such as *Autobio_Bieber_2019*, *SermonTranscript_Bieber_2019*, etc.
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Materials will be reviewed by the Board of Ordained Ministry before an interview is scheduled. If guidelines are not met, an interview will not be granted. Notification will be sent by September 30th.