

# QUALIFICATIONS FOR BOARD CERTIFICATION

The candidate for certification must:

QBC 1: Have completed a graduate theological degree from an accredited seminary or recognized by the Department of Education of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as an accredited degree.

QBC 2: Equivalencies for the undergraduate and/or graduate level theological degree will be granted by ACI according to established guidelines.

QBC 3: Provide documentation showing completion of four (4) or more units of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) that are approved or accredited by Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM) from at least one of the following organizations in North America: Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE), the Canadian Association for Spiritual Care (CASC), *College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy* (CPSP), or any other nationally recognized Clinical Pastoral Education Program. In other world divisions, training from CPE programs recognized by the ACM Department of each division will be accepted. Equivalency for only one unit of CPE may be considered.

## COMPETENCIES

### SECTION I: PASTORAL CARE THEOLOGY

The candidate for certification will demonstrate the ability to:

PCT 1: Articulate a theology of spiritual care that is integrated with a theory of pastoral practice, Seventh-day Adventist principles, and beliefs.

PCT 2: Incorporate a working knowledge of psychological and sociological disciplines and religious beliefs and practices in the provision of pastoral care to all faiths.

PCT 3: Incorporate the spiritual and emotional dimensions of human development into the practice of pastoral care.

PCT 4: Incorporate a working knowledge of ethics appropriate to the pastoral context.

PCT 5: Articulate a conceptual understanding of group dynamics and organizational behavior.

PCT 6: Articulate how primary research and research literature inform the profession of chaplaincy and the candidate's own pastoral care praxis.

### SECTION II: PROFESSIONAL IDENTITY AND CONDUCT

The candidate for certification will demonstrate the ability to:

PIC 1: Function pastorally in a manner that respects the physical, emotional, relational, and spiritual boundaries of others.

PIC 2: Use pastoral authority appropriately.

PIC 3: Identify professional strengths and limitations in the provision of pastoral care.

PIC 4: Articulate ways in which personal feelings, attitudes, values, and assumptions affect pastoral care.

PIC 5: Advocate for the person under their care.

PIC 6: Function within the Common Code of Ethics for Board-Certified Seventh-day Adventist Chaplains  
(See Appendix A for full text of the Code.)

PIC 7: Attend to own physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being.

PIC 8: Communicate effectively orally and in writing.

PIC 9: Present himself/herself in a manner that reflects professional behavior, including appropriate professional attire and personal hygiene.

### SECTION III: PROFESSIONAL PASTORAL CARE

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The candidate for certification will demonstrate the ability to:

PPC 1: Establish, deepen, and maintain close pastoral relationships with sensitivity, openness, and respect.

PPC 2: Provide effective pastoral support that contributes to the well-being of clients, their families, and staff.

PPC 3: Provide pastoral care that respects the rights of others to choose their own beliefs and lifestyle, and does not discriminate due to diversity and differences, including, but not limited to, culture, gender, sexual orientation, and spiritual/religious practices.

PPC 4: Triage and manage crises in the practice of pastoral care

PPC 5: Provide pastoral care to persons experiencing loss and grief.

PPC 6: Formulate and utilize spiritual assessment tools in order to contribute to the pastoral/spiritual care plan.

PPC 7: Provide religious/spiritual resources appropriate to the care of clients, families, and staff.

PPC 8: Develop, coordinate, and facilitate public worship/spiritual practices appropriate to diverse settings and needs of the people being served.

PPC 9: Develop a personal theological reflection in the practice of pastoral care.

PPC 10: Facilitate theological/spiritual reflection for those in one's care practice.

PPC 11: Facilitate group processes, such as family meetings, post-trauma, staff debriefing, and support groups.

### SECTION IV: PROFESSIONAL PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

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The candidate for certification will demonstrate the ability to:

PPL 1: Promote the integration of pastoral/spiritual care into the life and service of the institution in which he/she resides.

PPL 2: Establish and maintain professional and interdisciplinary relationships.

PPL 3: Articulate an understanding of institutional culture and systems and systemic relationships.

PPL 4: Support, promote, and encourage ethical decision-making and care.

PPL 5: Document his/her own contribution of care effectively in the appropriate records.

PPL 6: Foster a collaborative relationship with community clergy and faith group leaders.

## SECTION V: REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION:

In order to maintain status as a Board-Certified Chaplain, the chaplain must:

BCC 1: Participate in a peer review process every fifth year.

BCC 2: Document 40 hours of annual continuing education, including workshops, course work, and professional reading. Complementary activities such as personal counseling/therapy, programs in biblical spirituality, supervision, and formal peer review may be included as no more than 25 percent of the total hours.

BCC 3: Provide annual documentation current license/credential.

BCC 4: Adhere to the Code of Ethics for Board-Certified Chaplains.

BCC 5: Submit annual reports to the Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries Department of the home division/union as required. Such reports will be reviewed, validated, and forwarded to the Adventist Chaplaincy Institute.