UPCI VETERANS AFFAIRS CHAPLAIN ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Endorsement Requirements

- Agree with and practice the UPCIs Articles of Faith.
- Fulfill all the requirements of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Fulfill requirements of the UPCI for an ordained minister.
- Familiar with the provisions of the UPCI manual relating to ministerial licensing in Article VII.
- Letter of approval from UPCI district superintendent or ordaining bishop (if not UPCI).
- Letter of approval from local sponsoring pastor.
- Provide a personal testimony/philosophy of ministry statement to the UPCI Military Chaplaincy Endorsing Agent.
- Undergraduate degree of 120 semester hours from an accredited institution.
- Master of Theology degree (minimum of 72 semester hours) from an accredited seminary or graduate school of theology. (Master of Divinity degree preferable).
- Take the required four doctrinal courses at Urshan Graduate School of Theology (UGST) or complete UPCI Ministry Central reading requirements, if attending a graduate theological school other than UGST (See *UPCI Endorsed Chaplains*: https://ugst.edu/academics/degree-programs/certificate-programs).
- Three years full-time professional ministry experience (i.e. leading ministries, conducting worship services, baptisms, communion services, weddings, funerals, grief counseling, etc.).
- Four units (1600 hours) of Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE or ICPT approved).
- Must be a Board-Certified Chaplain certified by the Board of Chaplaincy Certification Inc. (BCCI) ® or nationally recognized certification body that utilizes the BCCI ® Common Qualifications and Competencies for Professional Chaplaincy or a certifying organization that has a reciprocity agreement with BCCI ®.
- Apply for ecclesiastical endorsement for veterans affairs chaplaincy through the UPCI Department of Military Chaplaincy. Contact UPCI Department of Military Chaplaincy for application at **636-229-7959 or rrobinson@upci.org**.
- Signed statement of affirmation concerning UPCI veterans affairs chaplain endorsement requirements and responsibilities.
- Successful interview with the UPCI Department of Chaplaincy in Weldon Spring, MO. It is strongly recommended that the candidate's spouse also meet with the Department of Chaplaincy for this interview.
- Letter of endorsement for the veterans affairs chaplaincy from the UPCI Department of Military Chaplaincy Endorsing Agent.

Endorsement Responsibilities

* Be a UPCI endorsed veterans affairs chaplain of honor and nothing negative should be said about chaplains of other faiths or about other denominations.
* UPCI endorsed veterans affairs chaplains are under the supervision of the Office of Education and Endorsement through the Department of Military Chaplaincy, UPCI.
* Support and advance the strategic plan goals, objectives, and initiatives of the UPCI Department of Military Chaplaincy.
* Provide current contact information, updated status changes, and routine communications (i.e. quarterly ministry reports, annual evaluation report, etc.) to the UPCI Department of Military Chaplaincy, 36 Research Park Court, Weldon Spring, MO 63304.
* UPCI endorsed veterans affairs chaplains will pay their tithes from their veterans affairs pay to the Office of Education and Endorsement, with a percentage to be given back to the chaplain only for current-year General Conference expense.
* Veterans Affairs Chaplains will attend the General Conference of the United Pentecostal Church International for educational and training purposes.
* UPCI endorsed veterans affairs chaplains' first responsibility is to the Department of Veterans Affairs.
* Veterans affairs chaplains are responsible to the local church or district where they reside.
* Attend a local church and always work in harmony with the district superintendent.
* Attend district functions only as these do not interfere with veteran affairs chaplaincy duties.

I _____ hereby have carefully read the above article and

        PRINT NAME

agree to fulfill my requirements to The Department of Military Chaplaincy, UPCI to the best of my ability.

_____   _____

       SIGNATURE   **DATE**