



**United Pentecostal Church International
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Chaplaincy**

**Veterans Affairs Chaplain Endorsement
Requirements and Responsibilities**

Endorsement Requirements

- Agree with and practice the UPCI's Articles of Faith.
- Fulfill all the requirements of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- 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) if attending a graduate theological school other than UGST (See ***UPCI Endorsed Chaplains***: <https://ugst.edu/academics/degree-programs/certificate-programs>).
- Ordained by the United Pentecostal Church International. (Non-UPCI Ministers: Ordained by an organization whose doctrine agrees with the UPCI's Articles of Faith).
- Familiar with the provisions of the UPCI Manual relating to ministerial licensing in Article VII and with the provisions for veterans affairs chaplaincy in Article IX, Section 2 paragraph 4, and OEE Policies, Section 9 Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Chaplaincy Policies.
- Provide a personal testimony/philosophy of ministry statement to the UPCI Military Chaplaincy Endorsing Agent.
- Letter of approval from the UPCI district superintendent and local sponsoring church pastor. (Non-UPCI candidates will provide a letter of approval from their ordaining bishop or superintendent and their local pastor).
- 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 ®.
- Signed statement of affirmation concerning UPCI veterans affairs chaplain endorsement requirements and responsibilities.
- Apply for ecclesiastical endorsement for veterans affairs chaplaincy through the UPCI Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Chaplaincy (DMAVAC). Contact UPCI DMAVAC for application at **636-229-7959** or **rrobinson@upci.org**.
- Successful interview with the UPCI DMAVAC in Weldon Spring, MO. It is strongly recommended that the candidate's spouse also meet with the DMAVAC for this interview.
- Letter of endorsement for the veterans affairs chaplaincy from the UPCI DMAVAC Military Chaplaincy Endorsing Agent.

Endorsement Responsibilities

- Willingness to facilitate and coordinate programs for individuals of all religious faiths.
- 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 jurisdiction of the Office of Education and Endorsement through the UPCI Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Chaplaincy (DMAVAC).
- Support and advance the strategic plan goals, objectives, and initiatives of the UPCI DMAVAC.
- Provide current contact information, updated status changes, and routine communications (i.e. quarterly ministry reports, annual evaluation report, etc. per the DMAVAC prescribed reporting format) to the UPCI DMAVAC, 36 Research Park Court, Weldon Spring, MO 63304.
- UPCI endorsed veterans affairs chaplains will pay their tithes from their full 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 DMAVAC Chaplain Huddles and 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 and Veterans Affairs Chaplaincy, UPCI to the best of my ability.

SIGNATURE

DATE