



## **Federation of Christian Ministries Religious Body Endorsement**

### **Introduction to the Process**

Welcome to the Federation of Christian Ministries (FCM) religious body endorsement site. FCM provides its members both commissioning and endorsement. However, FCM commissioning and endorsement are unique processes and not interchangeable.

Religious body endorsement is an official declaration by a religious body that a person is in good standing with that religious body, has a relationship of clear accountability with that religious body, and has met certain ethical and competency standards to serve in a specialized ministry - such as chaplaincy, pastoral counseling, or clinical pastoral education. Endorsement also means that the endorsed person can represent that religious body in a specialized ministerial setting.

Candidates for endorsement must be recommended by the Committee on Specialized Ministries (CSM) and approved by the FCM Circle of Directors at either the annual February or July meeting. Recommendation is based on a thorough review of the candidate's application materials, other documentation, letters of recommendation, verifications, and the written report from the local/regional interview committee selected and organized by the candidate.

All written materials must be postmarked at least 1 month prior to the beginning of the Circle of Directors' Meeting for which the candidate is seeking endorsement. It is the responsibility of the candidate to find out the exact dates of the Circle of Director's meetings and to have their materials to the CSM in time for consideration.

The FCM endorsement application is available on-line. If you have any further questions about FCM religious body endorsement, please contact the co-chairs of the Committee on Specialized Ministries:

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