

# Credentials Committee

## South Florida Presbytery

Friday, June 16, 2017

Dear Candidate,

The Credentials Committee looks forward to working with you towards your call from our Lord to be installed in the PCA. Here is some information to help you along the way in your planning:

Don't take another step without reading the PCA Book of Church Order, chapters 19-21. Read, also, the SFP SRO information on Internship (Care) Licensure and Ordination (Credentials). Ultimately, this is the authoritative reference concerning all credentialing in the Presbyterian Church in America.

After understanding what our Denomination requires from all candidates please note the following, which the Credentials Committee requires of you, specifically, in the order given (making sure that all submissions be transmitted electronically using Microsoft Word and PDF formats, ***EXCLUSIVELY***):

For *Licensure* please provide the following immediately

- 1) A formal request for examination
- 2) Your written testimony of Christian experience and call to the Gospel ministry
- 3) A formal endorsement from a PCA Session As stated in their minutes
- 4) Internship and care information from the Care Committee

For *Licensure examination* the following will be administered in writing, firstly, then orally

- 1) Bible content exam
- 2) Theology content exam
- 3) Church government content exam
- 4) A written sermon text must be submitted and part of which will be presented on the floor Presbytery.

(The above mentioned exams are to be taken in one sitting under a Proctor provided by the Committee, and must be passed with a 80 percentile minimum grade)

(Using the booklet *Preparing For Licensure And Ordination Exams*, written by Brian Chappell and Jim Meek will be especially helpful. Another, similar, study guide can be purchased from LAMP - 954 - 434 - 4500. These guides are suggested but not required, and do not represent the breadth of a Committee or Presbytery examination.)

For *Ordination* please provide the following

- 1) All components of the Licensure process
- 2) A Formal Call from the PCA Session representing the local church
- 3) An installation/ordination Commission, which includes names, dates, place and time
- 4) Internship report from the Care Committee
- 5) Undergraduate degree diploma
- 6) Masters of Divinity degree diploma
- 7) Masters of Divinity transcripts
- 8) Exegesis paper (Greek or Hebrew; new or graded seminary paper)

- 9) Theological paper (new or graded seminary paper)
- 10) Views Paper (not to exceed three pages in length discussing the topics included in SRO list, page 9)

For *Ordination examination* the following will be administered in the same manner as Licensure

- 1) Sacraments content exam
  - 2) Church History content exam
- (The above mentioned exams are to be taken in one sitting under a Proctor provided by the Committee, and must be passed with a 80 percentile minimum grade)

For *Transferring credentials* from another PCA Presbytery or affiliated denomination

- 1) Provide call from new church
- 2) Provide report from sending Presbytery of status (good standing)
- 3) Provide commission information
- 4) Provide views paper (using SFP SRO list of theological subjects, page 9, attached)
- 5) Provide written testimony of Christian experience and call to gospel ministry
- 6) Sustain interview with credentials committee on views

Normally, the Credentials Committee meets, officially, two weeks prior to the stated meeting of the Administration Committee of SFP. The exact dates will be provided to you through our communications. But note: in your scheduling, plan to present all written materials to me no less than one month prior to the Presbytery meeting your are targeting.<sup>1</sup> While any member of the Credentials Committee is willing and able to assist you, I am available to you, also, and will be your primary contact through the credentialing process. My schedule is usually Monday through Wednesday. Contact information is the following:

TE Carlos M Salabarría  
[SalCM@aol.com](mailto:SalCM@aol.com)  
305-546-8448

For and unto Jesus Christ,

TE Carlos M Salabarría, Chairman  
Credentials Committee  
South Florida Presbytery

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<sup>1</sup> Updated: Saturday, January 20, 2018