

American Baptist Church (ABC)

Resources	Overview of Ordination Process & Requirements*	Coursework Required*
<p><i>Recommended Procedures for Ordination:</i> https://www.abc-usa.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/procedures-for-ordination.pdf</p> <p><u>Contacts:</u> Rev. Dr. Cheryl F. Dudley (cdudley@abcmny.org) Regional Executive Minister, ABC Metro New York Office 475 Riverside Dr., Suite 432 New York, NY 10115 (212) 870-3195</p> <p>Rev. Dr. Violet Lee (violet@christchurchnyc.org) Ordination Council Member, ABC Metro New York <i>and</i> Adjunct Professor / Visiting Lecturer, Union Theological Seminary</p>	<p><i>Summary of <u>recommended</u> ordination standards:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Licensing (if pursued, by a local American Baptist congregation in coordination with their regional department of ministry) 2. Education[†] <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Options: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>Track I: Seminary</i> – 4 years of college and an M.Div from an accredited seminary ii. <i>Track II: Equivalency</i> – equivalent degrees or experience with a maximum substitution of 6 years of full-time ministry equal to 3 years of higher education iii. <i>Track III: Lay Pastor</i> – regional or seminary lay pastor program from the US or another country, plus 3 years of full-time ministry experience b. Coursework in American Baptist history and polity; professional ethics c. Affirmation of the Covenant and Code of Ethics of ABC Ministers Council d. Candidacy Assessment: complete at Ministry Development Council Career Center 3. Meet with regional department of ministry prior to licensing (if pursued) and prior to ordination 4. Ordination Council meeting 5. Ordination Service <p>* Ordination requirements may vary by region and church/pastor.</p> <p>[†] Track I is considered the standard track toward ordination and is the most recommended option among ABC regions. Any candidate wishing to be pursue Track II or Track III MUST secure the written permission of the regional department of ministry PRIOR to entering either of these tracks and meet all requirements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● American Baptist history and polity ● Professional ethics <p>For Metro New York region, there is an ordination orientation every fall, usually in September. Contact the regional office for more information.</p> <p>* Requirements may vary by region and church/pastor.</p>