## Christian Church (Disciples of Christ, DOC)

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| **General Commission on the Order of Ministry**  
[https://disciples.org/gcom/](https://disciples.org/gcom/) | **Steps for Candidacy**  
• Membership and active participation in a local congregation for at least one year.*  
• A letter of recommendation/endorsement from local congregation to the Commission on Ministry of the Region.  
• Meet regularly with the Regional Commission on Ministry and provide a statement of faith, theological beliefs, and explanation of call to ministry/ordination.  

**Educational Requirements**  
• **Seminary Track**** – completion of an M.Div or its equivalent from a theological school accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) in the U.S. and Canada or its equivalent.  
• **Apprentice Track** – completion of a program of study of at least 250 contact hours approved by the Region.  

**Act of Ordination**  
• Under the authorization and guidance of the sponsoring congregation and the Region, with the Regional Minister (or designee) presiding.  

Candidates are evaluated on the following Areas of Competency:  
• Biblical Knowledge  
• Church Administration & Planning  
• Communication  
• Cross Cultural & Anti-Racism Experience  
• Ecumenism  
• Education & Leader Development  
• Ethics  
• Evangelism  
• Mission of the Church in the World  
• Pastoral Care  
• Proclamation of the Word  
• Spiritual Development  
• Stewardship  
• Theology  
• Understanding of Heritage  
• Worship  

*Ordination requirements may vary by congregation and Region.  
** Candidates are encouraged to follow the seminary track.  

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* This is a requirement for the Northeast Region. Each Region’s requirements may vary.  
† The following one-day continuation education trainings are typically required for clergy (especially in the Northeast Region) on a rotating annual basis:  
• Year 1: DOC History and Polity (basically a review)  
• Year 2: Healing and Reconciliation (Mediation)  
• Year 3: Anti-racism Pro-reconciliation Training  
• Year 4: Boundary training, including sexual, financial, etc.