



HIGHER EDUCATION & MINISTRY

General Board of Higher Education and Ministry

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Board of Ordained Ministry: Responsibilities and Functions

Section I: Opening

1. Write one sentence that summarizes your understanding of the BOM's work.

2. What are one or two questions you have about the BOM's work?

3. What do you hope to learn this week?

Section II: Membership

Who on your BOM fulfills the required categories of membership?

- ❖ Laity
- ❖ Associate Members or Local Pastors
- ❖ Deacons
- ❖ Elders
- ❖ A District Superintendent
- ❖ Orders and Fellowship Chairs
- ❖ Young Adult Clergy (Deacon or Elder, 35 or younger)
- ❖ An Extension Minister
- ❖ Retired Clergy
- ❖ Is there a balance of racial/ethnic and female/male members? Among the Board? Among the Executive Committee?



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Section III: Organization

Officers – Who are the officers? What officer positions do you have?

- ❖ Chair/Co-Chairs
- ❖ Vice Chair(s)
- ❖ Registrars
- ❖ Orders and Fellowship Chairs
- ❖ Vocational Discernment Coordinator
- ❖ Others

Executive Committee – Who is on the Executive Committee?

- ❖ Chair
- ❖ Registrar
- ❖ Orders and Fellowship Chairs
- ❖ Committee Chairs
- ❖ Conference Relations Committee Chair
- ❖ District Superintendent
- ❖ Division Chairs
- ❖ Vocational Discernment Coordinator
- ❖ Others

Conference Relations Committee – Who is the chair? Who are members?

District Committees on Ordained Ministry – Who represents each of the dCOMs from your conference?

Other Committees – What other committees do you have? Who are the best members to serve on those committees?



Section IV: BOM Responsibilities

Conference Relations and Membership Functions

Conference Relations and Membership Functions are listed in ¶ 635.2, and most of the references below are to sub points in this paragraph.

1. Associate, Provisional, Full Membership (2h, 2i, 2j)
2. Licensing (2j)
3. Provisional Member Continuance (¶ 326)
4. Status Changes (2l)
 - a. Leaves of Absence (Medical, Transitional, Involuntary, Voluntary)
 - b. Location (Administrative, Honorable)
 - c. Retirement (2k)
5. Less than Full-time Appointment (2l)
6. ABLC and Extension Ministry Appointment Settings (2s)
7. Specialized Ministry (2t, 2u, 2v)
8. Transfers (2l, see also ¶ 347)

Program Functions

Program Functions are outlined in ¶ 635.2, and most of the references below are to sub points in that paragraph. Additional paragraphs are referenced as needed.

1. Enlistment and Recruitment (2a, 2b)
2. Theological Education (2c, 2d, 2e, 2g)
 - a. Seminary Relationships
 - b. Course of Study Relationships
 - c. Licensing School
3. Mentoring (2f)
4. Residence in Ministry for Provisional Members (¶ 326)
5. Develop Standards for Evaluation (2q, 2r)
 - a. Eight-Year Assessment (¶ 349.3)
6. Providing Support for Ministerial Leaders (2o)
 - a. Continuing Education/Formation for Licensed/Ordained Clergy (¶ 334.2d)
 - b. Orders and Fellowship (2p)
 - c. Extension Ministers (¶ 344.2b)
 - d. Retired Clergy (2k)
7. Ministerial Education Fund (2w, 2y) - Support, Advocacy, Use



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Section V: Summary and Wrap Up

How would you summarize the BOM's work?

Additional Questions for Consideration

1. How does your BOM evaluate what tasks need to be completed?
2. What work does your BOM do in the program areas listed above? And what programs or activities do you provide to candidates and clergy?
3. How are these program functions completed? And by whom?
4. What areas could benefit from additional support or activities?
5. How do the programs you offer fit into your BOM's strategic plan for the development of ordained, licensed, certified, and assigned ministerial leadership?
6. What other questions or thoughts do you have as you prepare for the remainder of this week's training event?