

Acts 12:24 Churches MEG Checklist – CMC Interview

The purpose of the CMC Interview is to get to know the candidate, and to gather a sense if God might be calling this person into the ordained ministry. The goal of the CMC Interview is not to ask every question that could be asked; nor to necessarily have a firm & definite “Yes” to ordained ministry. The CMC Journey is one of training, education, reflection, & discernment; and so, a “no” to CMC status is more likely for those for whom you are persuaded are not called toward ordination.

Prior to the Interview:

Has this Candidate:

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| _____ Completed an Application for Ministry. | _____ Passed a <u>Free Methodist History & Polity</u> course. |
| _____ <u>Strength Finders 2.0</u> assessment on file. | _____ Been Received as an LMC. |
| _____ <u>UniquelyYou</u> assessment on file. | _____ A CMC Recommendation from the Lead Pastor |
| _____ Completed a Request for CMC Interview. | |

Communicate to the Candidate:

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| _____ Date, Time, & Location of the Interview. | _____ Approval is contingent upon a background check. |
| _____ What they can expect. | _____ The timeline, post-interview, for a decision. |

If the Candidate is Approved to be Received as a CMC:

Communicate to the Candidate, by email or phone with a follow up email, the Next Steps. The candidate will:

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| _____ Register for Annual Conference. | _____ Attend a CDN Encounter. |
| _____ Assemble a Prayer Team. | _____ Begin to Plan for a Ministry or Bible Educational Program. |
| _____ Select a Mentor if they have not yet. | |

If the Candidate is Not Approved:

Communicate to the Candidate, by phone call first with a follow up email after speaking to the candidate, the Next Steps:

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| _____ The Decision of the MEG | _____ That they should continue to be active in ministry |
| _____ An offer for a 3-way conversation with their mentor/pastor | |

Some Points for Communicating Non-Approval:

- Thank you for your desire to pursue and explore God’s calling in your life.
- The CMC interview is part of a discernment process to help a candidate understand that calling.
- Based on our recent interview, the MEG did not believe that the Pastoral Development Program is what God is calling you to at this time.
- The decision is based on the ability to articulate one’s calling, past fruitfulness, and identifiable gifts that would point to a call to ordained ministry.
- Maybe also Communicate: The MEG did, however, think that the Consecrated Deacon track would be best fitted for you at this time. Your local pastor can guide and direct you into this.

Steering someone out of a perceived call to ordained ministry (if you are persuaded it isn’t there) is not easy and has to be handled with care whereas not to devastate the individual. On the other hand, to not do it is a disservice to the individual, the conference, and the Kingdom.