

MID FORMATION SCHEDULE

CANDIDATE	LOCAL CHURCH	ASSOC. COM	JMAT	PSEC
<p>1 A local church member of the UCC desiring to prepare for ordained ministry talks with his/her pastor about expectations. Member must have been an active member of this local church for at least one year.</p>				
<p>2 If church member decides to proceed, application is made to the governing board of the local church for an interview and its recommendation to the Association that the person is being considered for Member in Discernment Status.</p>	<p>Governing Body sets a time to meet with person.</p>			
<p>3 Person meets with governing body for an interview.</p>	<p>3 Governing Body meets with candidate for interview regarding recommending them for Member in Discernment Status to their Association COM. This recommendation does not presume a specific outcome. This recommendation does affirm continued discernment and</p>			

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	ongoing support of this person's process.			
4 Person submits MID Application along with letter of recommendation from Local Church.	Governing Body writes letter of recommendation to the Association COM.			
		<p>5 COM receives application and requests the following material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement of person's spiritual journey; • Statement of person's understanding of their call in and on behalf of the UCC • 3 letters of reference—one from the local church pastor • A letter from Local Church stating that person is an active member in good standing for at least one year. • A letter from Local Church stating that they officially recommend this person for MID status and how they reached that decision • Submit grade transcripts and certifications of completed educational programs • A paper of not more than 12 pages describing your spiritual faith 		

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		journey; describing your understanding and practice of the Christian faith; and your understanding of ordination in and on behalf of the UCC and why you are seeking ordination.		
6 Person completes info needed and sends to COM				
		7 COM received info and sets a date for interview.		
Person meets with COM		COM meets with person.		
		8 COM interviews and goes over PSEC Ministerial Formation Plan, MARKS and requests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PA Criminal Background Check, PA Child Abuse Clearance, and FBI Fingerprint • Has person complete the disclosure form • Has person sign the consent form for all documents to be given to and be duplicated for JMAT 		
Candidate meets with JMAT		9 COM sends all information to JMAT	JMAT schedules a date to meet with candidate, their pastor, and a member of the COM.	
Person meets with COM		COM receives recommendation. Schedules a meeting with the candidate to	10 JMAT writes a recommendation whether they	

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		share JMAT's recommendation and to have an honest conversation to discuss what happens next—yes; yes, but; no, but; no.	prayerfully discern this person is being called to ordained ministry. This recommendation is sent to the COM.	
Candidate will make sure that all parties send in their funds for the psychological testing.		11 If answer is yes, COM will alert PSEC that this candidate is ready for psychological assessment.		PSEC is alerted to readiness for psychological assessment and sends out invoices to church and candidate.
Candidate receives contact info from PSEC and schedules assessment with Physis.				12 Upon sent of monies, PSEC will send contact info to candidate to schedule assessment with Physis.
Candidate will receive report from the assessment. Candidate will receive decision of MID Status from COM and will schedule a time to meet with Rev. Worley.		13 COM receives results from psychological assessment and makes final decision on MID Status. They communicate this result with the candidate either by meeting with candidate or by phone.		PSEC receives results of psychological assessment. Rev. Worley will be in touch with candidate to schedule a meeting.
14 MID meets with JMAT to begin an assessment and talk about a growth plan		COM schedules a time for JMAT, MID, and member of COM to meet.	JMAT schedules time to meet with MID.	

CHART FOR EDUCATIONAL FORMATION

Revised MARKS	Options for Educ Content or Experiences to Promote the MARKS		JMAT Recommended Educational Content or Experiences to Promote the MARKS	Date Completed
EXHIBITING A SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION AND ONGOING SPIRITUAL PRACTICES				
Loving God, following Jesus Christ, and being guided by the Holy Spirit. Living a life of discipleship.				
Praying actively and nurturing spiritual practices.				
Being called to authorized ministry by God and the Church.				
Continuing discernment of one's call in community.				
Living in relationships of covenantal accountability with God and the church.				
Understanding the power of the Holy Spirit working through silence, language, art, music, ritual and symbols across generations and contexts.				
Knowing the elements and purpose of Christian worship in nurturing a life of faith.				
Exhibiting a commitment to lifelong spiritual nurture and development.				

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NURTURING UCC IDENTITY				
Acknowledging Jesus Christ as the sole Head of the Church				
Communicating passion for the oneness of the body of Christ reflected in Scripture (John 17:21).				
Holding active membership in a local church of the United Church of Christ.				
Participating in the various settings of the United Church of Christ, including associations, conferences, general synod, and global ministries.				
Knowing and appreciating UCC history, polity, and theology.				
Exhibiting a commitment to the core values of the United Church of Christ: continuing testament, extravagant welcome, and changing lives.				
Demonstrating an appreciation for and participation in the ecumenical and interfaith partnerships of the				

United Church of Christ.				
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BUILDING TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Empowering the Church faithful to God's call, reflective of Christ's mission, and open to the surprises of the Holy Spirit.				
Strategically creating the future of God's church.				
Witnessing in the public square to God's redeeming power				
Performing necessary and appropriate administrative tasks.				
Working effectively with intercultural awareness and sensitivity				
Understanding community context and navigating change with a community				
Encouraging leadership development of self and others through continuing education and life-long learning.				

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ENGAGING SACRED STORIES AND TRADITIONS				
Exhibiting knowledge, understanding, and continuing study of the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament.				
Nurturing effective proclamation and preaching.				
Understanding the history of the Christian church, from biblical times forward				
Bringing life to the sacred stories and traditions in worship, proclamation, and witness				
Leading faith formation effectively across generations				
Holding the Holy with integrity especially as represented in the Sacraments				

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CARING FOR OTHERS				
Nurturing care and compassion for all God's creation				
Maintaining a basic understanding of mental health and wellness				
Understanding and ministering to stages of human development across the life span				
Providing hope and healing to a hurting world				
Attending to one's own spiritual and pastoral care and engagement in supervision, as appropriate.				
PARTICIPATING IN THEOLOGICAL PRAxis				
Practicing theological reflection and engagement as part of one's sense of ministerial identity.				
Experiencing and appreciating a variety of theological perspectives				
Integrating theological reflection in teaching, preaching, and ecclesial and community leadership.				
Articulating a theology of ministry				

consistent with one's ministerial practices				
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ENCOUNTERING THE OTHER WITH JUSTICE AND MERCY				
Drawing on the ministry of Jesus Christ to confront injustice and oppression.				
Practicing the radical hospitality of God				
Identifying and working to overcome implicit bias in all ministry settings and in the life of the church.				
Engaging in mission and outreach				
Embodying the United Church of Christ Ministerial Code of Ethics.				
STRENGTHENING INTER- AND INTRA- PERSONAL ASSETS				
Developing and maintaining a healthy sense of self as shaped by God, community, and life experiences.				
Respecting the dignity of all God's people				
Exhibiting strong moral character and personal integrity				
Demonstrating excellent communication skills				
Practicing self-care and life balance				