



American Baptist Churches Of the South

Ordination Check Off List for Pastors of ABC/USA Churches

This information is based on the fact that the ordinate has been licensed by the church, and that the church is listed as a currently financial ABCOTS, ABC/USA church.

1. Prior to ordination or a call for an ordination council, the candidate must have received a call or is currently working in a professional ministry in an American Baptist affiliated church or related institution.
2. The Pastor must call for a vote of the congregation, Ministry of Deacons, or an official board of the candidate's ordaining church to indicate that the church approves of the ordination of the named candidate(s).
3. Notify the Coordinator of Ordination for the Area Ministers' Council, or the Executive Minister, Dr. Walter L. Parrish, II, of the names of the Ordination Candidate(s), and that an Ordination Council is requested for the candidate(s).
 - **Note: For the ordination to be recognized by ABCOTS and ABC/USA, the Ordination Council must consist of at least five (5) ordained American Baptist Ministers listed in the Professional Registry-Directory of the ABC/USA.**
Other ministers/Deacons may be invited to participate on the Ordination Council; they do not have to be "Pastors" to participate.
4. Candidate(s) should choose at least two (2) months prior to the assembly of the Ordination Council, a Catechist who will assist the candidate in his/her preparation for the Ordination Council.
5. The Pastor and the Diaconate Ministry should set a date for the Ordination Council and the date for Ordination of the ordinate candidate(s).
6. The Pastor will inform the Area Coordinator of Ordination of the dates for the Ordination Council and the Ordination Service of the ordinate candidate(s).
7. The Pastor will design the Ordination Service (a copy of a suggested order can be given by the Council).
8. You may call upon the Executive Minister and/or the Area Ministers' Council President for assistance or participation.
9. A copy of the Ordination Service Program (Bulletin) is to be sent to the President of the Ministers' Council.
10. A presentation of the Bible and the Church Hymnal should be given to the Candidate(s). The **presentation of a robe is optional.**