



Membership in the ABCOTS Ministers' Council

Introduction

The ABCOTS Ministers' Council seeks to be a fellowship which includes in its ranks all persons who have been called into all forms and levels of ministry and are in good standing with an ABCOTS local congregation. Therefore, its field of membership includes persons who are eligible for the national body and persons who are not. Membership is categorized as **Level One** and **Level Two**.

Level One Persons who are eligible for inclusion in the ABC Directory of Professional Church Leaders and therefore eligible for membership in the national ministers' council.

1. Ordained
 - A. ABC Ordination
 - B. Ordination from another denomination recognized
2. Commissioned
 - A. Missionaries (National, International and Denominational)
 - B. Chaplaincy (Including, but not limited to military, pastoral counseling, hospital, campus, prison ministries, etc.)
 - C. College, university, seminary professionals
3. Lay Professional (Employed in a professional capacity in a local church or denominational setting)
4. Seminary Students

Level Two Persons engaged in ministry in local church settings who do not meet the standards for inclusion in the ABC Directory. These are local church recognized ministers.

1. Local church ordained (Person ordained by a local church for ministry at that church)
2. Licensed (Person licensed by a local church in preparation for ordination. It is a temporary status but is applicable if the person is employed in a ministerial task and is not enrolled in seminary.)
3. Licensed minister (Person not seeking ordination but functioning in a pastoral role.)

Opportunities for Participation in the ABCOTS Ministers' Council

Level One

- May participate in programs, activities and training events
- May hold elective office
- Pays Regional and National Dues – Contact Ministers' Council president for dues information
- Counts toward national membership count

Level Two

- May participate in programs, activities and training events
- May not hold elective office but may be appointed to give leadership to specific programs and/or activities.