

Discerning a transition to chaplaincy and already have your MDiv or equivalent?

If you have an MDiv or other 72+ credit hour graduate level theological degree and you want to prepare for a ministry transition to chaplaincy, here are suggested next steps.

Take one part-time unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)

This first unit gains practical experience, counts toward the four units required for professional chaplaincy, and can aid your discernment process. The combination clinical curriculum and small group-based education is available in a variety of contexts – hospitals, hospice organizations, community-based programs and on a variety of schedules.

Continue to complete CPE units two through four

If you discern that chaplaincy is your next move in ministry, continue with three additional units of CPE. Employment and professional certification of chaplains requires the completion of 4 units of ACPE-accredited CPE. (1 unit = minimum of 400 contact hours of class and clinical curriculum). These may be accomplished as consecutive individual part-time units or a CPE Residency—a year-long, full-time experience.

To find an ACPE, Inc. Accredited CPE Center near you, go to: www.acpe.edu

