

June 30, 2022

According to our records, it appears that you MAY be eligible to apply for June 2023 admission to Provisional Membership in the Western North Carolina Annual Conference under the *2016 Book of Discipline*.

You share with us the responsibility of determining your eligibility. The requirements you must meet are complex, but they may be summarized as follows:

1. Certified as a candidate for ordained ministry before June 17, 2022.
2. Graduated with a B.A. or B.S. or equivalent degree from an accredited college or university (see ¶ 324.3).
- 3a. If in the “elder track,” will have completed, by June 1, 2023, all of your M.Div. degree or its equivalent (see ¶ 324.4b and BOM policies) or Advanced Course of Study if on the “local pastor” track.
- 3b. If in the “deacon track,” will have completed, by June 1, 2023, all of a master’s degree from an approved seminary OR will have completed another master’s degree in your area of specialization from an approved school (see ¶ 324.4c) and the Basic Graduate Theological Studies (see #4).

All educational requirements for ordination must be completed by the annual conference at which you are commissioned. This is a requirement of the WNC Board of Ordained Ministry.

4. In the context of your education, have completed, in a seminary or seminaries approved by the University Senate of The United Methodist Church, a minimum of twenty-seven (27) semester hours of basic graduate theological studies (BGTS) in the Christian faith, including the areas of Old Testament survey course; New Testament survey course; systematic theology; church history; mission of the church in the world; evangelism; a worship survey course; and United Methodist doctrine, polity, and history (see ¶ 324.4a and BOM policies). No course can meet more than one requirement. [You can read more about BGTS requirements here.](#) In addition, WNC requires a three-hour preaching course for all candidates.

5. Have completed a basic seminary survey course in systematic theology, the theory and practice of preaching, and the course in United Methodist doctrine required of Provisional candidates before the interviews next March. (These are Western North Carolina Conference requirements that in addition to BOD requirements.)

The 2022 assignments are available at <https://www.wnccumc.org/conference-membership-and-ordination/>. All assignments must be submitted by **January 31st, 2023**.

Please note you will also need to request to meet with your dCOM in mid-December for their approval for Provisional Membership. This [request is available here](#) as a fillable pdf. You will need to download the file, fill out the form, and submit it to your district office by **October 1st**. Your district office will provide instructions on how to submit this request and your dCOM assignments.

In addition to these requirements, you must also complete your Provisional Membership file with the Office of Ministerial Services. You will receive a personalized list of what you will need to submit for your file in September. There is a lot of work to be done. Do not hesitate to get started.

If you can meet all of the above requirements and wish to apply, please do so at <https://wnc-reg.brtapp.com/PM23App> by **August 31st, 2022**. This deadline is firm! Applications received after that date will not be accepted. If you do not intend to apply this year, please let me know.

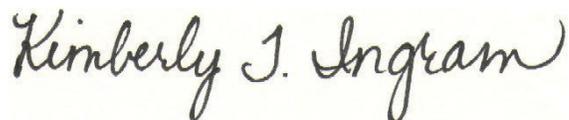
Once you complete these requirements, you will be eligible to meet with the Board of Ordained Ministry for a personal interview, which are scheduled for **March 14-16th, 2023** (about a third of a day for each candidate).

You will have an opportunity to learn more about the requirements for Provisional Membership at an orientation session on **Thursday, August 18th** hosted by the Board of Ordained Ministry. Please RSVP at <https://wnc-reg.brtapp.com/BOMOrientation23> by **Monday, August 8th**.

Please go ahead and put all the dates included in this email on your calendar. I also recommend that you save this email and the links provided for future reference.

If you have questions about your eligibility or other concerns, please do not hesitate to write or call me or Joy Allen (jallen@wnccumc.org) in the Office of Ministerial Services. We want to be of help as you make this important step in the ordained ministry of our church.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kimberly J. Ingram". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kim Ingram