A Simple Guide to Candidacy Stages and Mentors

Inquiring Candidate	Inquiring Stage From when UM member experiences call from God until candidate attends Candidacy Summit		Inquiring Candidate
Exploring Candidate	Exploring Phase From completion of Candidacy Summit to certification Exploring Mentor assigned at the Candidacy Summit		Exploring Candidate
	Candidate must complete this stage in 2 years or start over at the Summit		
Certified Candidate	If candidate for licensed ministry (Seeking to be appointed and attend licensing school and course of study) Certified Stage From certification to appointment (and between appointments) Certified Mentor assigned Only if candidate does not receive appointment While candidate not under appointment, must be re-certified by dCOM annually DCOM Pastor PT and FT licensed local pastors must make progress in studies and be re-licensed by dCOM annually	If candidate for ordained ministry (Planning to complete seminary and seek ordination as deacon or elder—whether serv- ing as a student, PT, FT local pastor or not) Certified Stage From certification to commissioning Certified Mentor assigned After certification Candidate must make progress in studies and be re-certified by dCOM annually Candidate must complete this stage in 12 years or start over at the Summit Candidate requests dCOM and BOM recommendation for commissioning	Certified Candidate
	Clergy Mentor assigned While under appointment until local pastor completes basic course of study Note: Local pastors who have completed basic course of study may continue studies, complete advanced course of study, and request dCOM recommendation for associate membership or commissioning and provisional membership	after or during last year of education	
		Commissioned Minister Provisional Member From commissioning to ordination Residency Covenant Group (RCG) Mentor assigned At summer RCG retreat	Commis- sioned Minister and Provisional Member
		After two years "residency," commissioned ministers may request BOM recommendation for ordination and full membership	