

CALL GUIDELINES MINISTRY IN SPECIALIZED SETTINGS

It is understood by the Rocky Mountain Synod that not all ministries can be carried out in parish settings. The synod can call persons to minister in other settings. Requests for calling an ordained person to ministry in a specialized setting shall be received by the Synod Committee for Ministry in Specialized Settings for review, recommendation and referral to the Synod Council for action. As the committee reviews requests, the following procedure shall be followed:

1. Determination that the position requires a person to perform Word and Sacrament ministry. (ELCA 7.21)
 - a. Define the nature of the position by function. (ELCA 7.31.12a)
 - b. Show how the position fits into the Rocky Mountain Synod's strategic mission plan and the Synod's need or desire to be represented by an ordained person.
2. Determination that the call to specialized ministry meets the Basic Criteria For Calls to Ministry in Specialized Settings as established by the Rocky Mountain Synod.
3. Determination that the called person shall be identified as an ordained person of the ELCA in the performance of his/her duties.
4. Determination that the applicant is not under consideration for any other call and will not consider any other call during the time their request for a call to ministry in a specialized setting is being considered.

When the above procedures are satisfied, the following criteria shall apply:

1. Categories of specialized pastoral care as set forth in the ELCA document titled "Call Criteria, Standards, Endorsement Procedures, and Program Guidelines for Specialized Pastoral Care," Final Draft April 15, 1991 (Inter-Lutheran Version)* shall apply:
 - Long-Term Care Chaplaincy
 - General Health Care Chaplaincy
 - Mental Health Care Chaplaincy
 - Correctional Chaplaincy
 - Pastoral Counseling Ministry
 - Substance Abuse Chaplaincy and Counseling Ministry
 - Mental Retardation/Developmental Disability Chaplaincy
2. The Rocky Mountain Synod shall, in the case of military chaplains, recognize the criteria of the ELCA and the call issued by the ELCA.
3. The Rocky Mountain Synod shall, in the case of calls to Campus Ministry, recognize the criteria of the National Lutheran Campus Ministry and receive their recommendation before issuing a call.

****This document is secondary in all circumstances to the Constitution and By-Laws of the ELCA.***

Adopted by Synod Council February, 1994.