



## Guidelines for the Consecration & Ordination Mentor

### ASSIGNMENT OF MENTOR

The *Manual of The Christian and Missionary Alliance* (E4-4, VII, and E5-4, VII) states: "A mentor shall be assigned for each candidate by the LO&CC in accordance with the guidelines provided by Church Ministries."

### ROLE OF MENTOR

The following guidelines are based on the LO&CC Guide in the *Church Ministries Handbook* of The Christian and Missionary Alliance (p. 21).

- Recommended Qualifications for Consecration & Ordination Mentors
  - Mentors should be Consecrated & Ordained individuals within the district in which the candidate serves.
  - Mentors should be, whenever possible, the same gender as the candidates.
- Recommended Responsibilities for Consecrated & Ordained Mentors
  - Become familiar with Sections E3-E6 of the C&MA Manual.
  - Pray for and build rapport/relationship with the candidate.
  - Share life and experiences with the candidate as much as possible.
  - Keep track of the development process of the candidate by connecting on a regular basis with the candidate to check the status of assigned projects and readings.
    - Tracked by 18 monthly meetings.
    - Attendance at the Consecration & Ordination Conference each fall is strongly encouraged.
  - Stay connected with the district office in order to update the district on the process of the candidate.
  - Assist the candidate in preparing for the Consecration & Ordination interview as appropriate.

### CORE ELEMENTS OF EACH MONTHLY MEETING

Each monthly meeting will contain similar elements. Those are described below with some suggestions for covering the information. Take time to read over this as a candidate/mentor team to make certain you understand what is being asked of you in each section of the monthly meeting sheet. Please do not skip over any area. The mentor will sign the meeting sheets to indicate that the described areas have been covered adequately.

Keep in mind that you will meet 18 times before testing. The Consecration & Ordination Conference will provide for one of your meetings. Some candidates and mentors also meet during District Conference. Hosting in one another's homes and including spouses (where applicable) is also part of the requirement.

\*Please note the following descriptions are written for the candidates. They are listed here for the mentor's reference.

**Bible Reading:** Over the two years of preparation for Consecration & Ordination, you are to read the Bible twice in two versions of your choice. In order to complete this requirement, you must read about 130 chapters for

each monthly meeting. At each meeting you will list the books of the Bible you read, the total number of chapters and the version you used. Please be ready to share how those Scriptures impacted you personally as well.

**Discipleship and Discussion:** This will be a time when you share how you are living out the Great Commandments (Matthew 22) and the Great Commission (Matthew 28) as well as equipping the saints for ministry (Ephesians 4). It is expected that you are discipling someone and that you have a more mature believer pouring into you. Further, you will respond to some questions that reflect our CDCMA 3-Fold Vision. Take your time to go through each question thoughtfully and thoroughly.

**Doctrine and Scripture:** In this section, you will discuss a specific area of doctrine and explore some of the Scriptures that support it. Key words and ideas are also listed that will be helpful for you to know. The expectation is that these verses and references will be memorized, and some study of the theology will be done BEFORE the meeting. Don't skimp on this area—it will be a great help to have this done well when exam time comes.

**Practicum:** Practical areas of ministry will be discussed in this time. You may think some of the topics don't apply to you but be willing to hear what your mentor has to say. You might be surprised where God leads you in the future. This would be a great time to discuss other ministry challenges you have faced recently or follow up on situations you discussed previously.

**Reading and Writing:** For each meeting, you will either discuss a book you have read and written a book report about OR you will discuss a paper you have written.

- **Reading:** There are eight books on the required reading list. For each of those, you must complete the book report form and discuss the book and book report with your mentor. Later, you will read an additional 500 pages from the Additional Reading List. No book report form is required for the additional reading, but the content should still be discussed with the mentor. The book report form and additional reading list are found at <http://cdcma.org/resources-forms>.
- **Writing:** There are six papers regarding our Alliance distinctives. For each of those, you should consult the rubric and directions for submitting found at <http://cdcma.org/resources-forms>. Please bring the paper to your meeting for feedback from your mentor before submitting to the reviewer. Do NOT wait until the end of the process before submitting papers for grading. They are DUE as they appear on the Meeting Sheets.

**Other Tasks:** Here you will find various items that must be done in the C&O process. We have tried to spread them out so that you are making steady progress rather than being overwhelmed with items to complete while you are studying for your test.

**Prayer & Planning:** Remember to end your time together by praying for one another. Don't forget to appreciate your mentor and tie up any loose ends. Items to prepare for the next meeting are also listed. **Send your initialed meeting sheet to [lturner@cdcma.org](mailto:lturner@cdcma.org).**

## **ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS TO COMPLETE DURING THE PROCESS**

- Each year review at least one video recording of a full-length sermon/teaching which was presented by the candidate.

- The mentor needs to meet in the home of the candidate at least once and it is recommended that mentor host the mentee in his/her home once.
- The mentor is encouraged to attend the annual Consecration and Ordination Conference for candidates and mentors each fall.
- The candidate is required to complete the online Alliance Polity Course if it has not already been completed prior to placement. The mentor does not need to grade anything. This will be done through the National Office.
- Candidates will complete an online assessment – *Strengths Deployment Inventory (SDI 2.0)*. If you are not familiar with the SDI, the candidate may discuss results with someone who is trained in SDI.
- The mentor should give special attention to preparing the candidate for his/her written and oral ordination/consecration examinations. Please focus on Scriptural support of doctrinal positions of the C&MA.
- Test questions are available for mentors and may be given (in person, not emailed) to candidates in January.
- A rubric is available for mentor reference as you help candidates prepare. The rubric should never be shared with candidates.

## **ADDRESSING CONCERNS**

If the candidate falls behind in his/her Consecration & Ordination schedule, please contact the LO&CC Chairman. If the candidate continues to fall behind, he/she may have to meet with the Licensing, Ordination and Consecration Council for possible removal from the Consecration & Ordination program. All extensions must be submitted to the District Superintendent for approval.