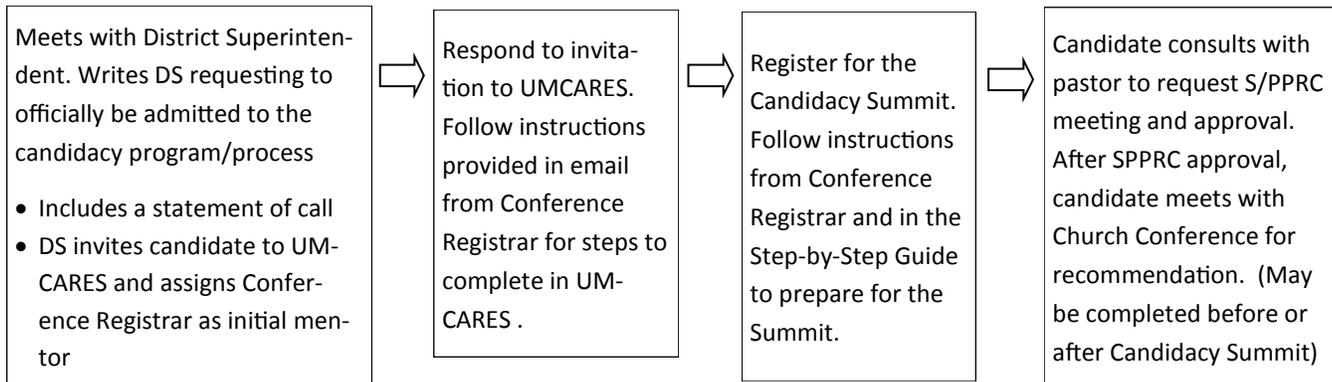


Great Plains Process for Licensed and Ordained Ministry

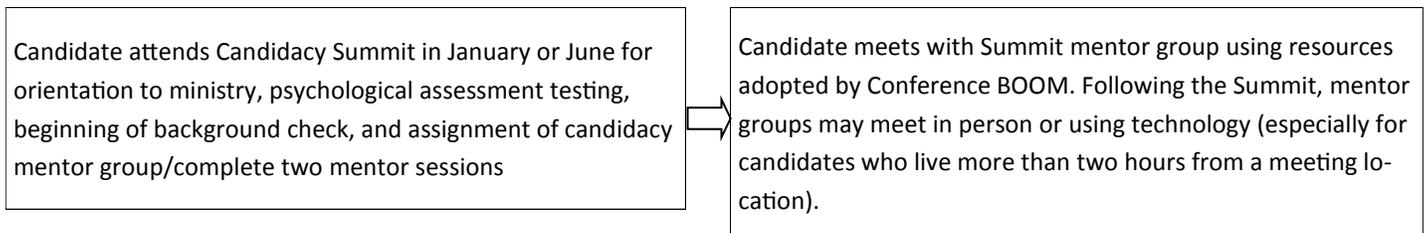
Inquiring candidate
exploring call

Contact District Superintendent, pastor or another deacon or elder → Encouraged to read, *The Christian as Minister*

Declared Candidate
wants to explore further and more seriously



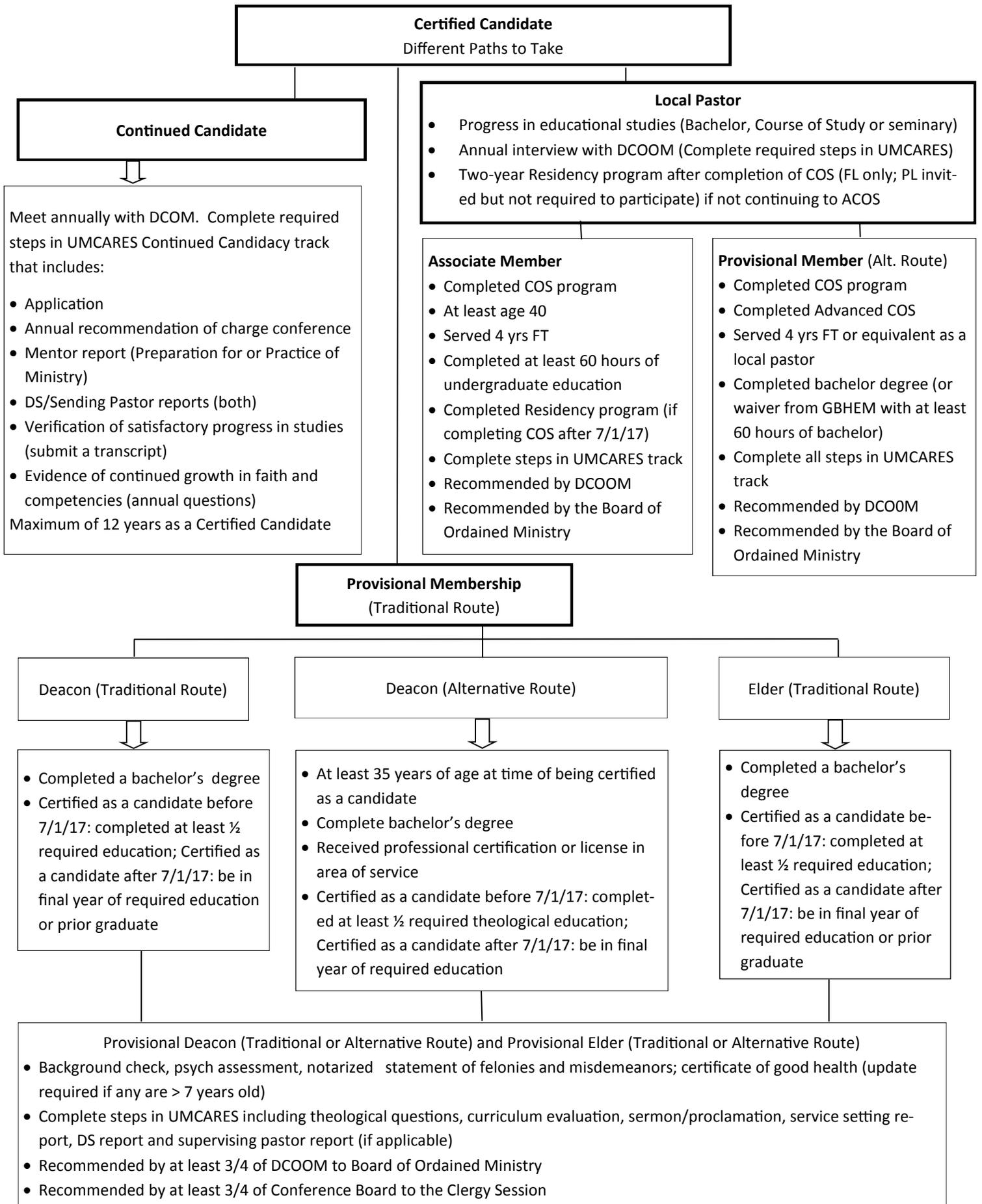
Declared Candidate, continued



Certified Candidate
becomes an official candidate for ministry in the annual conference

Interview with DCOM with the following completed before the meeting.

- Complete all steps in the GBHEM and GP Candidacy tracks in UMCARES up to “DCOOM Meeting/Interview” including verification of at least one year as a professing member or baptized participant of a UM congregation or ministry setting; written response to questions about call, gifts, beliefs, experiences; completed background check; completed psychological assessment; Candidacy Mentor Report; verification of S/PPRC recommendation; verification of Church/Charge Conference approval; Theological Statement/Statement of Call; Candidate Disclosure Form, Medical Report, Biographical Information Form, Application for Clergy Relationship, District Superintendent & Sending/Supervising Pastor Report
- May request approval for license as a local pastor during the same DCCOM interview/meeting with no additional requirements; additional steps required if requesting approval for license at a different time
- If approved (3/4 majority, written ballot), candidate will move to a Preparation for Ministry or Practice of Ministry mentoring group

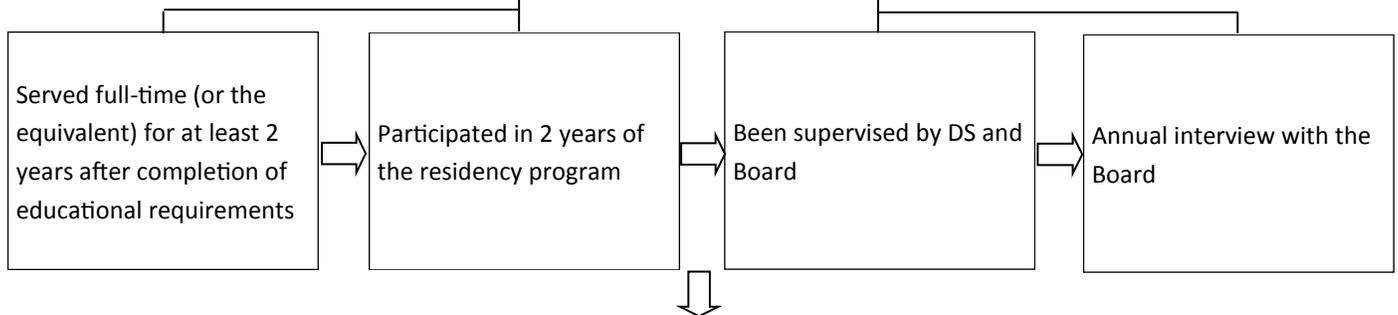


Continued Provisional Deacon/Elder
(maximum of eight years as a provisional member)

- Year 1**
- Focus on demonstrating increasing qualities of a fruitful, transformational leader (readiness to effectiveness)
 - Annual interview with the Board (regional format).
 - Interview requirements include: DS report, Residency report, sermon/proclamation, ordination project proposal, ministry questions
 - Approval by a majority of the Board

- Year 2+**
- Focus on demonstrating increasing qualities of a fruitful, transformational leader (readiness to effectiveness)
 - Annual interview with the Board (regional format)
 - Interview requirements include: DS report, Residency report (Yr2) or continuing education/coaching report (Yr3+), sermon/proclamation, ordination project reflection (Yr2), ministry questions
 - Approval by a majority of the

Full Deacon/Elder



- For full membership and ordination, interview requirements include:
- Background check, psych assessment, notarized statement of felonies and misdemeanors; certificate of good health (update required if any are > 7 years old)
 - Complete steps in UMCARES including theological questions, sermon/proclamation, Bible study, DS report and supervising pastor report (if applicable), ordination project reflection (if not submitted during continued provisional membership), Residency report (or approved continuing education/coaching report), and ministry questions
 - For Elder only: If appointed in extension ministry, a 1-2 page statement detailing your service as it relates to Word, Sacrament, Order and Service

***Basic Graduate Theological Studies** (required courses for all deacons and elders)

- | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| • Old Testament | • Church history | • Worship/liturgy | • UM polity |
| • New Testament | • Mission of church in the world | • UM doctrine | • UM history |
| • Theology | • Evangelism | | |