

Ascension Seton
Clinical Pastoral Education
ACPE Standard 304.1; 307

Acceptance Into The Certified Educator Program

The ACPE Certification Program at CPE at Ascension Seton is designed for the minister who has demonstrated, in the words of Rudolf Ekstein and Robert Wallerstein, "excellence in the practice of [ministry]." The person who has completed the process of identity formation as minister and has begun to demonstrate capable function as a professional pastor often finds the inner urge to share that excellence with others. That is a natural step in the development of the professional, to teach the art and craft to others who may, hopefully, excel beyond the capabilities of the supervisor and advance the profession. Usually this is conceived as moving toward certification as a CPE Educator. But such training may also be appropriate for those interested in pastoral supervision in other settings such as lay ministry or seminary field education. Persons who desire to be certified as ACPE Educators should carefully understand the requirements established by ACPE.

Admission to the Certification Process

Requirements include:

- a. A completed application for Certified Educator Programs
- b. College Graduation
- c. Graduate theological degree or its equivalent
- d. Ordination or commissioning to function as a spiritual care provider by an appropriate religious/spiritual authority as determined by CPE
- e. Endorsement/statement of accountability from an appropriate religious/spiritual authority as determined by ACPE
- f. Successful completion of four units of Level I/Level II CPE
- g. Demonstration of spiritual care and conceptual competence as evidenced by the attainment/completion of Level I/Level II Outcomes
- h. Evaluation of the competences for admission to a Certified Educator Program
- i. Acceptance into the Ascension Seton Certified Educator Program

To be considered for the Ascension Seton Certified Educator Program an aspirant uploads all required materials into his or her ACPE portfolio thirty days prior to the interview and grants full access to the participants of the ACPE Admission Team.

Using the application materials that an applicant has uploaded to their portfolio, the CPE faculty will conduct an initial assessment of the applicant's suitability for admission and potential for becoming an educator. Acceptance into the Ascension Certified Educator Program is distinct from acceptance into the ACPE Certification Process.

Once an applicant is chosen by the CPE center and prior to the ACPE interview, the applicant must view the following videos.

- Understanding Competencies
- Competencies for Admission

After viewing the videos, the applicant will write a brief reflection on each of the videos, demonstrating their understanding of the major ideas of each and include these reflections in their portfolio.

The training educator assigned by the CPE faculty will then arrange for the applicant's interview. The interview committee will consist of three persons:

- The Certified Educator Candidate applicant
- The training educator assigned by the Center
- A Certification Commissioner Reviewer

For more information on admission into the ACPE Certified Educator Program, refer to the NewCertification Process Manual at acpe.edu/