

When can a minister access the UCC Ministerial Profiles Portal?

ADMINISTRATION OF PORTAL ACCESS

Access to the UCC Ministerial Profiles Portal depends upon a person's **ecclesial status** (Member in Discernment, Privilege of Call, Ordained Ministerial Partner), **ministerial authorization** (Licensed, Commissioned, Ordained), and **ministerial standing** (e.g. leave of absence, retirement, termination), as determined by **Committees on Ministry** and reported in the UCC Data Hub. COMs are responsible for reporting to their Associations/Conferences all actions related to ecclesial status, ministerial authorization and ministerial standing. Reported actions are input directly into the UCC Data Hub by those who are authorized and trained to do so on behalf of their Associations and Conferences. The beginning and conclusion of all fitness review processes are reported to the MESA Ministry Team, who input that information into the UCC Data Hub.

updated 8/26/2015

MEMBERS IN DISCERNMENT

A draft profile may be used by a Committee on Ministry in decision-making related to a Member in Discernment. The draft is fully prepared and submitted by a MID to the Association or Conference office, which in turn shares the draft with the COM. The MID's home conference is the only conference that can access the draft profile. A MID's profile will not go into circulation until it is validated by the appropriate conference staff member; validation is dependent upon a COM or Association's affirmative action known as "approval for ordination pending call," usually through an Ecclesiastical Council.

FITNESS

Circulation of a valid UCC Ministerial Profile ceases upon expiration of the criminal background check and/or commencement of a fitness review. Conference validation of a profile (and subsequent circulation) is prohibited when a minister's standing is suspended or terminated following a fitness review. The UCC Ministerial Profile discloses all past ecclesiastical employment, any ongoing program of growth, and all past ethical infractions rising to the level of censure, suspension or termination.

ECUMENICAL SCENARIOS

The profiles of Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) ordained ministers – known as **Ordained Ministerial Partners** – proceed along one of two lines. (1) The minister comes before a COM for a time of mutual discernment and obtains approval from the COM to seek a call in the UCC, after which the Ordained Ministerial Partner can create and circulate a UCC Ministerial Profile. (2) At the discretion of a DOC Regional Minister and a UCC Conference Minister, a Disciples minister can have her/his DOC profile passed along to UCC ministry settings on a case-by-case basis. OMPS – Ordained Ministerial Partner Standing – is granted if called to a UCC ministry setting.

Profiles for any minister other than a Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) minister fall under the process of **Privilege of Call**. A minister spends time in discernment with a COM regarding his/her call into the UCC; the COM may grant Privilege of Call status on an annual and renewable basis, thus allowing the minister to access the UCC Profiles Portal and circulate a UCC Ministerial Profile. Once a minister with Privilege of Call is called to a position within or representing the UCC, she/he is confirmed as a UCC minister in full standing, no longer designated as Privilege of Call nor holding any affiliation with his/her former denomination.

Scenarios that *do not* involve the UCC Ministerial Profiles Portal include Formula of Agreement Partners (Presbyterian Church USA, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, and the Reformed Church in America), whose own denominational paperwork may be shared with a UCC ministry setting according to the discretion of Association/Conference staff. Once called to a UCC position, a Formula of Agreement Partner meets with a COM to seek **Dual Standing** with the UCC.

REFERENCE SHEET: Ministerial Access to the UCC Ministerial Profiles Portal

Ministerial Excellence, Support and Authorization (MESA) Ministry Team

Local Church Ministries • United Church of Christ

✓ yes	✓ yes	✗ no	Member in Discernment on record in the UCC Data Hub
✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	Member in Discernment approved for ordination pending call
✓ yes	✓ yes	✗ no, unless also a MID who is approved for ordination pending call	Licensed UCC Minister
✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	Commissioned UCC Minister
✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	Ordained UCC Minister
✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	Ordained Disciples of Christ Minister on record in the UCC Data Hub
✗ no	✗ no	✗ no	Minister who has requested Privilege of Call
✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	Minister granted Privilege of Call and on record in the UCC Data Hub
may develop a Snapshot in the UCC Ministerial Profiles Portal	may draft a Profile in the UCC Ministerial Profiles Portal	may circulate a Profile via the UCC Ministerial Profiles Portal	
✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes, conditional on full disclosure in profile and program of growth	Authorized UCC Minister who has been censured
✓ yes	✓ yes	✗ no	Authorized UCC Minister whose standing is suspended
✗ no	✗ no	✗ no	Authorized UCC Minister whose standing has been terminated