

After the Commissioning Interview

After the candidate is dismissed, debrief the interview and make a decision. You will need to make one of the three following decisions:

1. Candidate is ready for ministry

In this case, the candidate is “**recommended for commissioning.**”

Candidates recommended to the Board of Ordained Ministry (BOM) for commissioning and provisional membership will complete additional requirements (see certified candidate checklist) and interview with BOM. If approved by BOM for commissioning, candidates will seek appointment. If appointed, candidates will seek final approval and commissioning at annual conference. If not appointed, candidates will be assigned to mentors who will help them consider their options.

2. Candidate is not ready for ministry, now or in the foreseeable future.

In this case, candidate is “**discontinued.**”

3. Candidate is not currently ready for ministry, but may be ready in the future.

In this case, candidate is “**continued**” as a certified candidate for one year.

The committee will need to give the candidate specific reasons why they find the candidate not currently ready, along with reasonable and tangible suggestions and/or requirements which may result in the candidate becoming ready for ministry.

Most certified candidates who either self-delay or are continued work with the same certified mentor for one additional year.

Once a decision is made, the committee should decide who will inform the candidate of the committee’s decision, verbally and in writing.

- **Inform the candidate verbally as soon as possible, within 24 hours.**
- **Inform the candidate in writing as soon as possible, within 10 days.**

Regardless of decisions made, the candidate should know the committee to be a caring community of Christians. When a difficult decision is made and the candidate is not encouraged to continue, a personal contact should be planned for the days that follow. Vocational alternatives can be explored with the candidate and assistance given in locating other employment. Candidates who experience difficulties in dealing with the board’s decision should be informed about any available pastoral care options.

Registrar or District Administrative Assistant should complete the one page dCOM action report and forward it to Candidacy Manager as soon as possible, within 10 days.