

Programs of Clinical Pastoral Education

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is education for ministry, utilizing the student's actual practice of ministry as the primary learning resource. At Covenant Health CPE Interns and Residents are assigned as a chaplain to a ministry location within the hospital. Such placement is also available to those in the Extended Program if they prefer.

About our Programs:

Extended CPE

The Extended Program is intended for community clergy, institutional chaplains, and laypersons that are already involved in ministry who wish to further develop their skills. Prerequisites for entry into the program include, in most situations, completion of an undergraduate degree, recommendation by one's religious authority, and recommendation arising from a formal Admission Interview.

The program takes place over an 18 to 20 week period twice a year (August to December and January to May). Students participating in this program are usually involved in full-time ministry in a prison, church, hospice, nursing home, or other ministry setting. Students usually meet for seminars on Mondays 8:30 am – 2:30 pm. There is no stipend for this program.

Summer Intern CPE

The Summer Intern Program is designed primarily for the seminary student who desires to add the structured experience of reflection on the practice of ministry to her/his academic work. However, the Unit also accommodates community clergy or laypersons who wish to participate in a full-time ministry experience in a hospital setting. Prerequisites for entry include, in most circumstances, the completion of an undergraduate degree, usually a minimum of one year of seminary, endorsement by one's religious authority, and recommendation arising from a formal Admission Interview.

This is an 11-week, full time program.

Residency CPE

The CPE Residency is designed for the professional minister, ordained or lay, who wishes to spend one year in an educational process in a hospital setting to train for professional chaplaincy in order to enhance her/his ministry. Prerequisites for entry include, in most circumstances, the completion of an undergraduate degree (B.A., B.S) with an M.Div. preferred, experience in lay or ordained ministry, and affirmation by one's faith group. Any student meeting the outcomes of Level I CPE, as documented by both the student and ACPE Supervisor, will be moved to Level II CPE. At the end of the contract year successful students have completed four units of CPE.

Once assigned a clinical area, students will be given spiritual responsibility for the persons in those areas, and are expected to provide ministry on a daily basis. Since ministry is

provided on a 24-hour basis, the student will be expected to serve on-call duty in rotation with other students. CPE Residents join with the Staff Chaplains to meet the spiritual needs of our patients, visitors, and hospital staff.

The current Resident stipend is \$28,500/year.

Time Commitment:

Each unit of CPE requires 100 hours of seminar time, and at least 300 hours of supervised ministry experience. The tuition of each unit is \$250.00. Our Center is accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education to offer Level I and Level II CPE. Most often ministers of church congregations or institutional chaplains complete the 300 hours of ministry experience as part of their regular duties.

How to Apply:

- Contact our office to express your interest in CPE. The department phone number is (806) 725-0427.
- Complete the CPE application and FERPA form included on this website. The staff person you initially contact will provide an email address to which you may remit your materials.
- We will review your material and contact you to schedule an interview.
- The application fee is \$40.00

Accreditation and links to Associated Organizations:

Covenant Health CPE Center is accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc. (ACPE) to offer Level I and Level II CPE. ACPE contact information is:

- Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc.
One West Court, Ste. 325
Decatur, Georgia 30030
Phone: 404-320-1472
Fax: 404-320-0849
www.acpe.edu
- [Association of Professional Chaplains](http://www.professionalchaplains.org)
[2800 W. Higgins, Suite 295](http://www.professionalchaplains.org)
[Hoffman Estates, IL 60169](http://www.professionalchaplains.org)
[Phone: \(847\) 240-1014](http://www.professionalchaplains.org)
www.professionalchaplains.org