

Professional Practice Policy

2025

We respond to the sacred Call by empowering and nurturing those inspired for expansive ministries in the world.



FCM

Circle of Directors

Document Revision History

Version	Date	Description

Introduction

Purpose of the Policy

It is the position of FCM that each member of FCM holds primary responsibility for maintaining appropriate professional and personal boundaries in all ministerial relationships. It is also assumed that when a person joins FCM, and especially when commissioned, they have attained emotional and sexual maturity thereby allowing the FCM member to minister comfortably with persons of any age or gender who may come for assistance.

Therefore, membership and commissioning in FCM are based on the following representations, and the signature of the applicant for commissioning will indicate an understanding of, and agreement with, these standards.

Members must truthfully answer each of these questions to be considered. If your answer is Yes to any of them, you must provide full particulars on a separate sheet of paper for your application to be considered.

- Have you ever been convicted of or charged with a crime in any state or country, the disposition of which was other than acquittal or dismissal?

A juvenile finding of responsibility or involvement, or similar determination, shall be explained as if it were an adult conviction. Any probation before verdict or similar disposition program shall be fully documented as well.

- Has any certifying or licensing board or professional ethics body in any state or country ever required you to surrender your license or certificate or found you guilty of a violation of ethics codes, professional misconduct, unprofessional conduct, incompetence, or negligence (including alternative dispute resolution cases)?
- Are there any complaints, charges, or investigations by any certifying or licensing board or professional ethics body pending against you in any state or country for violation of ethics codes, professional misconduct, unprofessional conduct, incompetence, or negligence (including alternative dispute resolution cases)?
- Have you ever had any insurance company or Lloyd's decline, cancel, refuse to renew, or accept only on special terms any professional liability insurance?
- Has any professional liability claim or suit ever been made against you (including alternative dispute resolution cases)?
- Are there any circumstances of which you are aware that may result in any professional liability claim or suit being made against you (including alternative dispute resolution cases)?

- Have you ever been accused of sexual misconduct with any of your current or former clients including but not limited to spiritual direction clients, mental health clients, or any other persons with whom you have had a professional, pastoral, or other similar relationship of confidence and trust, or with any current or former client's spouse or with any person in a close personal relationship to the client or former client (for example, a guardian, blood relative or the client or spouse of any person sharing the client's domicile)?

For purposes of this inquiry, "client" shall include, but is not limited to, persons with whom you have or have had, at any time, any professional, penitential, or any other pastoral relationship.

FCM members are required to follow state and federal laws for clearance to minister to vulnerable and/or protected populations as defined by their jurisdiction.

The Federation of Christian Ministries does not assume nor accept responsibility for the actions and practices nor the results therefrom of any of its members, present or past.

The applicant for commissioning hereby represents that to the best of their knowledge, the statements set forth herein are true. If the information supplied herein changes between the date of application and the time when the FCM commissioning is issued or renewed, or subsequently at any time the applicant remains a member of FCM, the applicant shall immediately notify FCM.