

**BY-LAWS FOR BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF CLINICAL CHAPLAINS
OF THE LOUISIANA CHAPLAINS ASSOCIATION, INC.
JANUARY, 2007**

SECTION 3 – MEMBERSHIP AND OFFICERS (con't)

- C. A copy of the minutes of all meetings of the BCC shall be filed with the Secretary of the Louisiana Chaplains Association, Inc.
- D. The Chairperson of BCC shall submit to the Treasurer of LCA, Inc. a proposed fiscal year budget (Oct. 1 – Sept. 30) for BCC no later than Sept. 1 each year.
- E. The BCC shall not be liable for damages when acting in good faith and in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated the BCC itself in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the L.C.A., Inc. for the BCC.

SECTION 5 – CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A. Preamble: The practice of pastoral care within the meaning and intent of these By-laws shall consist of rendering individual, group, and family spiritual guidance, counseling, and support aimed at assisting the individual, group, and/or family face: a) the perplexing questions about meaning and values in life, b) the pain of unresolved grief, guilt, or remorse, c) the loss of will to live, and/or d) feelings of helplessness resulting from other unresolved difficulties. The clinical chaplain must: a) assist a person in mobilizing positive resources to be found within the person's religious faith and practice, b) contribute, from a theological perspective, to a multi-disciplinary treatment or rehabilitation team's insights concerning the person, c) establish and maintain effective liaison with community clergy, community service organizations, and varied ecumenical and religious groups, efforts, and activities, d) be able and ready, when appropriate, to make referrals to other qualified professionals.
- B. **CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS**
 - 1. Any person seeking certification as a clinical chaplain shall submit an application to the BCC on a form and in such a manner as the BCC prescribes which application shall be accompanied by a non-refundable application fee as prescribed in the Bylaws of L.C.A., Inc.
 - 2. Upon receipt of the application, the BCC shall within thirty (30) days notify each candidate that the application is satisfactory and award the appropriate level of certification, or that the application is lacking in specified information, which is required for further consideration of the

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Certification request. In the latter case, the BCC shall award only that level of uncertified membership in L.C.A., Inc. which is appropriate.

3. The BCC shall issue an appropriate level of certification as certified clinical chaplain to each candidate who meets the following criteria:
 - a. Is at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
 - b. Is not in violation of any ethical standard prescribed by the BCC.
 - c. Has not been convicted of a felony (The BCC may, at its discretion, waive this requirement upon review of the individual's circumstance.)
 - d. Possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher learning (or its equivalent as acceptable to the BCC).
 - e. Possesses a Master of Divinity Degree from an accredited university or seminary (or its equivalent acceptable to the BCC).
- (((NOTE REGARDING POSSIBLE EQUIVALENCIES: An example of equivalency for the M.Div. degree specified by resolution of the L.C.A., Inc. on July 8, 1997 is as follows: a) Requirement of 32 classroom (i.e. actual hours as opposed to semester hours) in course work, seminars, and/or books read beyond the baccalaureate level, with the work covering the following areas of study – Theology, Biblical Studies, Psychology, Counseling, Sociology, Education, Christian Education, and Administration/Management. Further, reading of three books shall constitute one hour of this required work, not more than three hours of the required work may be credited by the reading of books, and the books to be read must be from a bibliography either suggested by or approved by the BCC.)))**
- f. Provides evidence of successful completion of four (4) certified units (i.e. attested to by a nationally recognized agency such as the A.C.P.E.) of Clinical Pastoral Education (or its equivalent acceptable to the BCC).

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f. (con't)

((NOTES REGARDING POSSIBLE EQUIVALENCIES: In previous editions of the By-laws for BCC, specific recognition was given to the following as substituting for up to three units of the required four: 1) A Master's degree in a field closely related to pastoral care to substitute for three units, 2) Six semester hours of Clinical Pastoral Training (CPT) in an institutional setting, but under an accredited college or seminary to substitute for three units, or 3) One year of pastoral experience to substitute for one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE), again to a maximum substitution of three units.

By resolution of the membership of L.C.A., Inc. on July 8, 1997, **several equivalencies for CPE** were established and it was noted that they stood as equivalencies rather than substitutions: 1) 20 hours of supervision of counseling for each unit of CPE (with no limit on the number of units covered by this equivalency noted), or 2) 20 hours of supervision of clinical work in a Social Services setting (with no limit on the number of units covered by this equivalency noted), or 3) a reading of a minimum of four (4) books for each unit of CPE, with the books to come from a bibliography or list suggested by or approved by the BCC (with no limit on the number of units covered by this equivalency noted.)))

- g. Provides to the BCC an endorsement or credentials stating that the Candidate is in good standing with a nationally recognized religious group and is endorsed by that nationally recognized group for chaplaincy work in the State of Louisiana.
- h. Is willing to participate, if required to do so by the BCC in order to Provide assurance of professional competence in pastoral care, in an Interview with the BCC or a committee designated by the BCC.

Revised January, 2007