

# CERTIFICATE IN DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MINISTRIES

## GAIN KNOWLEDGE & SKILL

Whether working for the Church in a commissioned capacity, or just having educated parishioners on whom they can depend, pastors need leaders within their congregations to help in faithfully ministering the Word of God. Just as Moses had Aaron, and Jesus had the disciples, we see throughout history that the Church relies on faithful servant leaders to assist in its mission.

The accelerated director of church ministries (DCM) program consists of three different levels and can be completed in two and a half years. Successful completion of all three levels results in certification as a Commissioned Minister of Religion – Director of Church Ministries (DCM) through the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and qualifies the certificate holder to be called to positions in congregations or registered service organizations as rostered church workers of the LCMS.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



8-week courses



Transfer up to 84 credits



Military friendly



Professors with relevant and real-world experience

## FREE CREDIT TRANSFER EVALUATION

If you have college credits from another institution, send your unofficial transcripts to [accelerated.admissions@cuw.edu](mailto:accelerated.admissions@cuw.edu) for a free credit transfer evaluation.

## PROGRAM CURRICULUM

### LEVEL 1 - FOUNDATIONS FOR SERVICE

Church Leadership Seminar (virtual)

Old Testament

New Testament

Biblical Theology

Religion in America Today

Christ's People Through the Ages

### LEVEL 2- PRACTICE IN SERVICE

Christian Care Giving

Family and Youth Ministry

Religious Education of Youth and Adults

Communicating Bible Messages

Church in Mission

### LEVEL 3 - CERTIFICATION AS A COMMISSIONED MINISTER OF RELIGION - DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MINISTRIES (DCM)

Director of Church Ministries Seminar (virtual)

Office of the Professional Church Worker

Lutheran Worship: Theology and Practice

Gospel of Luke

Lutheran Confessions

Church Ministries Internship

*\*Courses and program goals subject to change*

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY  
WISCONSIN & ANN ARBOR

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

**All students applying for admission to the program must submit:**

- DCM program application
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended; In cases where the student has less than 60 transferable credits, an official high school transcript or proof of GED must also be submitted
- To earn the full certification, students must hold a bachelor's degree; Concordia's online Bachelor of Arts in theological studies can be earned concurrently with this certificate program—some of the courses from the certificate count as college credits towards the bachelor's degree
- Applicants for the full certification (level three) must also complete a background check and submit four letters of recommendation; one from a pastor, two from church workers, and one from current employer

## ACCREDITATION

Concordia University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission ([hlcommission.org](http://hlcommission.org)), a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

## LEVELS OF OPPORTUNITY

### LEVEL 1

#### FOUNDATIONS FOR SERVICE

A solid foundation in the study of the Bible and Lutheran theology.

### LEVEL 2

#### PRACTICE IN SERVICE

A theological toolbox for teaching, leading devotions, outreach, visitation, and family ministry.

### LEVEL 3

#### CERTIFICATION AS A COMMISSIONED MINISTER OF RELIGION - DIRECTOR OF CHURCH MINISTRIES (DCM)

In-depth study in Lutheran worship and the Lutheran Confessions. Upon completion, candidates are eligible for a call.

*\*the first two levels do not result in certification*

## NEXT STEPS

### 1. Submit your application

#### CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY WISCONSIN

Go to [cuw.edu/apply](http://cuw.edu/apply). Select the Adult Accelerated Undergraduate option. Fill out the form and submit your online application.

#### CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY ANN ARBOR

Go to [cuaa.edu/apply](http://cuaa.edu/apply). Select the Adult Accelerated Undergraduate option. Fill out the form and submit your online application.

### 2. Apply for financial aid

All students are eligible to be reviewed for financial aid. Students will need to complete the FAFSA at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov). If you apply to CUW, use the school code **003842**, if you apply to CUAA use the school code **002247**.

Questions? Contact Concordia's Financial Aid Office:  
**[finaid@cuw.edu](mailto:finaid@cuw.edu) • 262-243-4569**

## INTERESTED IN THE PROGRAM?

CONTACT THE DCM OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION:

**262.243.4343 • [churchministriesprogram@cuw.edu](mailto:churchministriesprogram@cuw.edu)**