

Refer to NACC website <https://www.nacc.org/resources/coronavirus-resources/> New things are being posted daily, with many new resources that can be used in your changing ministry.

Refer to the CHA website <https://www.chausa.org/> for resources. New things are being posted daily. CHA website. – front page is a link to Corona Virus resources and Spiritual Care resources and a series of short podcasts.

Refer to the CHA Guidelines for Sacramental Celebrations in a Health Care Setting: https://www.chausa.org/docs/default-source/pastoral-care/guidelines-for-sacramental-celebrations-in-health-care-setting_jan2021.pdf?sfvrsn=4

Prayers from USCCB: <http://usccb.org/about/communications/usccb-president-reflection-and-prayer-during-coronavirus.cfm>; www.usccb.org

OTC Hearing Aids: <https://www.ncoa.org/adviser/hearing-aids/over-the-counter-hearing-aids/>

Flu Shot information: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/flushot.htm>

Booster information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>

Welcome & Introductions

REFLECTION:

Psalm: “Come Lord & bring us Peace, Come Lord & gather in our hearts.” Advent Prayer.

What’s in your heart?

I am coping with Aging. As we continue our ministry, what are some limitations we are facing and how do we manage it?

My spirit is stronger, but my body is weaker as I age. I’ve noticed that I do not have the same stamina that I used to. I am not able to do as much as I used to. I would like to continue my ministry, God willing.

I have been pondering the same question. I have the love of the ministry and the desire to continue. I have been fortunate that I live near a recreation fitness center that I go to once a week. That has helped me with being able to walk and still be mobile. However, mentally I am more forgetful but try to give myself grace as I age.

We have a very large hospital with many different departments. So big, that some chaplains have to split their time between two departments daily. It seems that there are always more people to see than we can keep up with. I come in the earliest to relieve the night chaplain. I don’t reflect on what others think. I keep focusing on serving the needs of patients and staff. Trust God will bless those interactions.

I was full time until 74. I volunteer at my nursing community. I take communion out to those who can’t go to mass. I walk all day on Fridays for this. I do funerals and memorials, but my health is failing. It seems that we don’t have the volunteers to satisfy the demand. I am not feeling the lack of ministry but now I have to measure it with the health of my body.

I retired at 76. During my 38+years of ministry I became a wisdom figure. They would look at me for advice. I would work with the CPE students and help them cope with their struggles. I ended up teaching nurses and doctors about the software because I had done it so long. However, I started falling. The last fall really put me up in a situation. I went from full time to 4 days to 3 days a week. Then I stayed as a volunteer. It made for a very comfortable transition. I say that I retired from a salaried ministry. You don’t really retire, you recycle. You do what you can with God’s grace. You be available and be present. And now a days we can call, text, and zoom to work around our ailments.

You must find fulfillment from following the Lord and doing his ministry. Know that your presence matters and has an effect. Our presence matters a lot. Be careful how we present ourselves, it is important. Some of the people we see could have been workers; you never know who you touch.

I have had a steady growth in chaplaincy. I just joined VA after serving at the field base. As you go, you shift. Those who we minister matter. What we represent matters. The challenge is it is always a continuous learning process. As we shift, it is the same ministry but a different mindset. We must experience service and the view of those we minister.

I retired two years ago. I babysit my grandson now. There wasn't any other room in my life for my ministry. Now I have more time since they hired a nanny. I would like to be more involved within NACC, but I am unsure how. What are my options as I am retired? Do I continue my certification?

There is a retirement program within NACC, and you can retain your certification as a retired chaplain.

<https://www.nacc.org/membership/apply-for-retired-membership/>

Please contact Jeanine Annunziato, Administrative Specialist/Renewal of Certification with any questions related to this communication. (jannunziato@nacc.org or 414-483-4898)

<https://www.nacc.org/certification/renewal-of-certification/board-certified-chaplain/maintaining-certification-in-retirement/>

What are your wishes as you prepare for this Advent season?

For me it's experiencing the beauty of a snowfall, nature, God's creation.

I hope that in all we do or experience we keep hope alive. There are brighter days ahead.

The anticipations of what is and what could be. We must trust what is to come.

Hope and expectancy

Uplifting one another especially as COVID and other illnesses become more prevalent in hospitals. That we give each other the strength we need to keep going and to recover from what we have experienced.

That we continue to always see His presence around us.

Peace.

Openness for what could be

The spirit of rejoining to continue to journey forward with a joyful spirit.

Not losing sight of the true message of Christmas.

Hope.

Closing Prayer

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS

CURRENT RETIRED BOARD CERTIFIED MEMBERS
OPTIONS FOR RENEWING CERTIFICATION DUE IN 2020

For a current Retired Board Certified member of the NACC paying a retired membership fee and whose renewal of certification year is 2020.

By December 31, 2020 discern how you would like to handle your renewal of certification (based on the options below):

- a) **Renew certification utilizing the “Retired Board Certified – Reduced Certification Requirements.”** To be eligible for this renewal process the member must be certified for at least five years and have successfully engaged in at least one five-year renewal of certification process.
 - Maintain your NACC membership at the fee set for 2020 (\$120). Certification Competency 306.MNT4.
 - Complete the “**Application for Retired Chaplain and Educator Renewal – Reduced Certification Requirements**” form and submit to the NACC office by December 31, 2020. This form will meet Certification Competency 306.MNT5 as it will include an Ethics Statement to be signed. Renewal of certification fee is waived.
 - Applications will be reviewed and voted upon at the next Certification Commission meeting and within 30 days of the meeting notifications will be sent.
 - Remain eligible to serve on committees, task forces, panels (excluding the Certification Appeals Panel and Ethics Appeals Panel), and as certification interviewers, interview team educators, and peer reviewers.

- b) **Renew certification utilizing the current full Certification Competencies and Procedures.**
 - Maintain your NACC membership at the fee set for 2020 (\$120).
 - Follow Certification Competency 306.MNT1-306.MNT5 and submit materials to the NACC office by December 31, 2020. Renewal of certification fee is waived.
 - Applications will be reviewed and voted upon at the next Certification Commission meeting and within 30 days of the meeting notifications will be sent.
 - Remain eligible to serve on all NACC governing and certification bodies.

- c) **Elect not to renew certification**
 - Upon receiving your 2020 membership invoice, alert the NACC if you have elected not to renew certification. The NACC office will adjust your membership invoice to show the membership rate for a Retired Non-Certified member (\$60).
 - Current certification status remains through December 31, 2020.
 - In January 2021, the NACC will update their records to show the change in certification status from certified to non-certified.

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TO: NACC Certified members
FROM: David A. Lichter, Executive Director
DATE: July 8, 2016
SUBJECT: Retired Member Status and Maintaining Chaplain Board Certification

Continued blessings of this 2016 to all of you, and thank you for your ministry and being a member of the National Association of Catholic Chaplains (NACC)!

After some months of preparing our internal processes we are happy to share with you the implementation plans of decisions of the Board of Directors regarding retired member status with NACC. Over the past couple of years the NACC Certification Commission, Governance Committee, and Board of Directors have deliberated over how to balance:

- maintaining the profession of chaplaincy,
- recognizing and supporting our board certified retired members who continue the healing ministry and want to retain their board certification in retirement, and
- sensitivity to the work and expense involved in maintaining one's board certification after one no longer earns a salary as a chaplain.

At the December 2015 meeting, the Board decided:

Decision #1

The current retired membership category will remain the same. *A person who has maintained membership in the NACC for at least five consecutive years and is now retired (no longer earning a salary as a chaplain), and desires to remain active in NACC and retain member privileges and responsibilities. Retired members who meet these criteria are eligible to vote.*

Decision #2

An **NACC board certified member** may enter the **Retired Board Certified – Reduced Certification Requirements** category. A member requesting this category is one:

- who has been certified for at least five years,
- has successfully engaged in at least one five-year renewal of certification process, and
- seeks to remain active in NACC as a retired member (i.e. no longer earning a salary as a chaplain/CPE supervisor).

In the **Retired Board Certified – Reduced Certification Requirements** category, a member may continue his/her board certification status **without the expectations** of fulfilling the current requirements of Certification Standards (CS) **306.1-306.3** for maintaining certification status. Those Certification Standards are:

- 306.1 Participate in a peer review process every fifth year.
- 306.2 Document fifty (50) hours of annual continuing education.
- 306.3 Provide documentation every fifth year of current endorsement or of good standing in accordance with the requirements of his/her own faith tradition.

The retired board certified member **will** need to continue to meet the **current requirements** of Certification Standards **306.4 and 306.5**. The retired board certified member will need to meet these requirements every five years according to their current renewal cycle. Those Certification Standards are:

- 306.4: Be current in the payment of the professional association's annual dues. This requirement would be met by maintaining the annual membership dues as a Retired Board Certified member.
- 306.5: Adhere to the Common Code of Ethics for Chaplains, Pastoral Counselors, Pastoral Educators, and Students. This requirement would be met by continuing to submit every five years a signed Ethics Accountability Statement (as part of the renewal application form).

As a Retired Board Certified member you would exercise your voting privilege/responsibility, and be encouraged to be involved in NACC in many ways, including committees, task forces, panels (excluding the Certification Appeal Panel and Ethics Appeal Panel), certification interviewers, interview team educators, and peer reviewers. Retired Board Certified members who maintain their certification in this way would not be eligible to serve on the governing and certification bodies of NACC as outlined below in Decision #3.

Decision #3

For those Retired Board Certified members **who wish to remain eligible to serve on the governing and certification bodies** of the NACC they will be **expected to remain current with maintaining Certification Standards 306.1-306.5** by engaging in the current five year renewal of certification process. Due to the nature of the responsibilities of these entities, remaining current in the profession is considered of paramount importance.

Governing and certification bodies of the NACC include:

- Board of Directors
- Certification Commission
- Standards Commission
- Ethics Commission
- Certification Appeals Panel
- Ethics Appeals Panel

Decision #4

The NACC ByLaws will now read:

A Retired Board Certified Chaplain (BCC), or CPE Supervisor (BCC-S) has maintained membership in the NACC for at least five or more consecutive years, has undergone at least one renewal of certification process and is now retired (no longer earning a salary as a chaplain), and desires to remain active in NACC and to retain member privileges and responsibilities. The Retired Board Certified is not required to fulfill the requirements for maintaining certification status, except for maintaining current NACC membership and continuing to submit the Ethics Accountability statement every five years. Eligible to vote. Only eligible to hold elective office on the Board of Directors and be on Certification, Standards, and Ethics Commissions, Certification Appeals Panel, Ethics Appeals Panel if person continues his/ her process for renewal of certification (five years for Chaplains and CPE Supervisors). All Retired Board Certified may be members of committees, task forces, and panels excluding the Certification Appeal Panel and Ethics Appeal Panel.