

46-18 (to the floor)
From the Ad-Interim Committee on Ordination Standards
Proposed Core Curriculum

<p>BIBLE (36 graduate credit hours)</p> <p>Old Testament (18)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OT Survey - Hebrew - Hebrew Exegesis <p>New Testament (18)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NT Survey - Greek - Greek Exegesis <p>THEOLOGY (24 graduate credit hours)</p> <p>Systematic Theology (9)</p> <p>Biblical Theology (6)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hermeneutics - Covenant Theology <p>Historical Theology (9)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pre & Post-Reformation - Reformed Theology <p>APPLIED THEOLOGY (12 graduate credit hours)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Homiletics (6) - Pastoral Care & Counseling (6) 	<p>CANDIDATE ASSESSMENT</p> <p>A denominational assessment for candidates, incorporating the required psychological evaluation and providing a written report to the appropriate committee of the Presbytery that includes insight into the candidate’s character formation and leadership skills.</p> <p>PASTORAL COMPETENCIES</p> <p>Skills will be assessed and approved by the Ministerial Committee and/or Care of Candidates Committee of the presbytery in consultation with the Advisor and Session Liaison. Potential options for fulfillment include internships, employment, and professional ministry experience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Missions - Global Missions - Evangelism - Leadership - Ethics - Discipleship - Conflict Resolution - Governance & Polity - Administration & Finance - Liturgical - Ceremonial
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Rationale: Because of the changes to the Master of Divinity degree, we believe the EPC needs to create her own standard. To that end, we are proposing the following standard criteria for all Candidates that includes academic coursework, character assessment, and field work in a local church and/or ministry setting where Candidates can learn organizational leadership and pastoral skills. Please note our current Candidate’s Educational Equivalency Program requires 66 credit hours of graduate level work with 12 hours in Old Testament, New Testament, and Theology respectively (Biblical Languages optional). Our new standard requires 72 credit hours of graduate level work with 18 hours in Old Testament and New Testament respectively (Biblical Languages required), and 24



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hours in Theology with an emphasis on Covenant and Reformed Theology. We also believe courses in Homiletics and Pastoral Care and Counseling are also essential for those seeking to be ordained to the office of Teaching Elder. Additionally, we believe the denomination should create an assessment weekend modeled after the church planter and world outreach assessments for our Candidates. Finally, we believe strongly that the local church is the best pipeline to train and equip future Teaching Elders in the necessary organizational leadership and pastoral skills.

www.epconnect.org/2026AIC-Ordination