



MILITARY AND VA CHAPLAINCY

 **PENTECOSTAL**
CHURCH OF GOD



NAVY



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The Pentecostal Church of God Commission on Chaplains was established January 1995 with the blessing of the General Board. At the 1995 General Convention it was given the approval of the entire denomination.

Today the Chaplains' Commission is continuing to grow. The future plans for our denomination's Military Chaplains and Veterans Administration Chaplains are well ahead of schedule and we sense that Christ is in this great ministry to those in uniform.

All military chaplaincy candidates are required to have a four-year Bible College or Liberal Arts degree, plus a three-year (Seminary) graduate degree and two years in a pastorate. Essentially, it takes nine years of the chaplain's life to prepare for his or her calling. Our current 34 chaplain candidates come from Oral Roberts University, George Fox Seminary, Southern California Seminary, Bethel Seminary, Fuller Seminary, Azusa Seminary, Assembly of God Seminary, Howard Seminary, Wesley Seminary, and Liberty Seminary.

Financial support is needed to help our young people complete the schooling required to enter the chaplaincy. Also, these young men and women need to know that others are praying for them and supporting them in this special vision for ministry.

Finally, efforts are needed to encourage and enlist young men and women who will discipline themselves to complete the required education so they can enter this specialized ministry. For those who attend Messenger College and desire this ministry, we have a scholarship program to help them through their schooling.

Those who would like to make a donation to the Chaplain's Commission or want more information about this exciting ministry should contact Dr. George W. Linzey, director of the Pentecostal Church of God Chaplain's Commission.



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*“I’ve set you up as light to all nations.
You’ll proclaim salvation to the four
winds and seven seas!”*

ACTS 13:47 (THE MESSAGE)

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APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Before an ordained minister or pastor can be appointed in the military chaplaincy, the applicant is required by the Department of Defense to obtain an ecclesiastical endorsement from the clergy's church body. The first step is to contact the director of Chaplains Ministries to obtain an application form. When the form is completed and references are obtained from the conference District Bishop and his/her pastor, the director or his designee will interview the applicant and his/her spouse. Then, the director will present the applicant to the Chaplains Ministries Board for final approval/disapproval of endorsement. If the applicant is approved the director will prepare a DD Form 2088, Certificate of Ecclesiastical endorsement, to the respective Branch of Service. A Pastor applying for military active duty or full time VA (Veterans Affairs) Chaplaincy should keep the matter confidential so that it will not impinge negatively on his/her present ministry in that there is no assurance or guarantee an appointment will be forthcoming.

REQUIREMENTS

Active Duty

- Must be an ordained minister in good standing with his/her conference, a nominal member of a local Pentecostal Church of God church, and have ecclesiastical endorsement.
 - Must have a bachelor's degree with no less than 120 semester hours (180 quart hours) from a qualifying educational institution. The applicant must also possess a post-baccalaureate graduate degree in the field of theological or related studies from a qualifying educational institution with a minimum of 72 semester hours (108 quarter hours) of graduate level work. What percentage of resident work has to be completed is up to

the respective service—Army, Navy, Air Force. Our Chaplains Ministries Board recommends the M. Div. Degree.

- Must pass a complete commissioning physical.
- Must be a U.S. citizen.
- Must pass a National Agency Check for security.
- Must have two years of ministry experience.
- Age Requirements:
 - Navy—appointed prior to 40th birthday
 - Army—appointed prior to 40th birthday
 - Air Force—appointed prior to 40th birthday(Age requirements may be adjusted for prior military service).

==★== ADVANTAGES ==★==

Active Duty

- 30 days of vacation with pay each year.
- An additional 15 days of permissive TDY to attend denominational functions.
- Receive free medical and dental care, with family care also available
- Low-cost life insurance (up to \$500,000).
- Excellent pay and allowances.
- Receive tax-free allowances for housing and meals.
- Enjoy shopping privileges at military commissaries and exchanges.
- Promotion opportunities
- Qualify for retirement after 20 or more years of service. Although great retirement benefits are provided for our chaplains, the most important advantage is that chaplains are exposed to the most exciting and dynamic ministry opportunities available anywhere. Whether or not one ever retires from the military, he/she will have opportunities to provide spiritual and educational ministries that are distinctly Christian to thousands of men and women who serve in uniform.

CHAPLAIN CANDIDATE SEMINARIAN PROGRAM

The Reserve program of the Air Force, Army, and Navy allows individuals to explore the military ministry option while attending seminary. It is called the Chaplain Candidate Seminarian Program. Candidates must pass a physical exam and National Agency Check. They must be a member of a local PCG church and must hold at least a minister's license in their conference. It is designed to expose seminarians to the diverse and demanding role of military chaplains in a variety of settings under the supervision of mature senior chaplains. Seminarians are commissioned as officers in the rank of Second Lieutenant in the Air Force and Army, or as an Ensign in the Navy. A uniform allowance is provided. They are given the opportunity to attend the Chaplains Basic Officer Orientation Course. Candidates must apply for this program to the Director of Chaplains Ministries. They must be enrolled as students in an accredited seminary. The director issues a letter of approval to the respective Branch of Service. The Army National Guard will help pay their way through seminary if they agree to be a National Guard chaplain. While in the Guard, you can apply for active duty after a year. The veterans affairs requires an endorsement before a pastor or minister can be

VETERANS AFFAIRS

appointed a VA hospital chaplain. The educational requirements are the same for armed forces chaplains, plus CPE training. However, there is no age, physical, or security criteria. Brochures and information are available upon request from the Director of Chaplains Ministries.

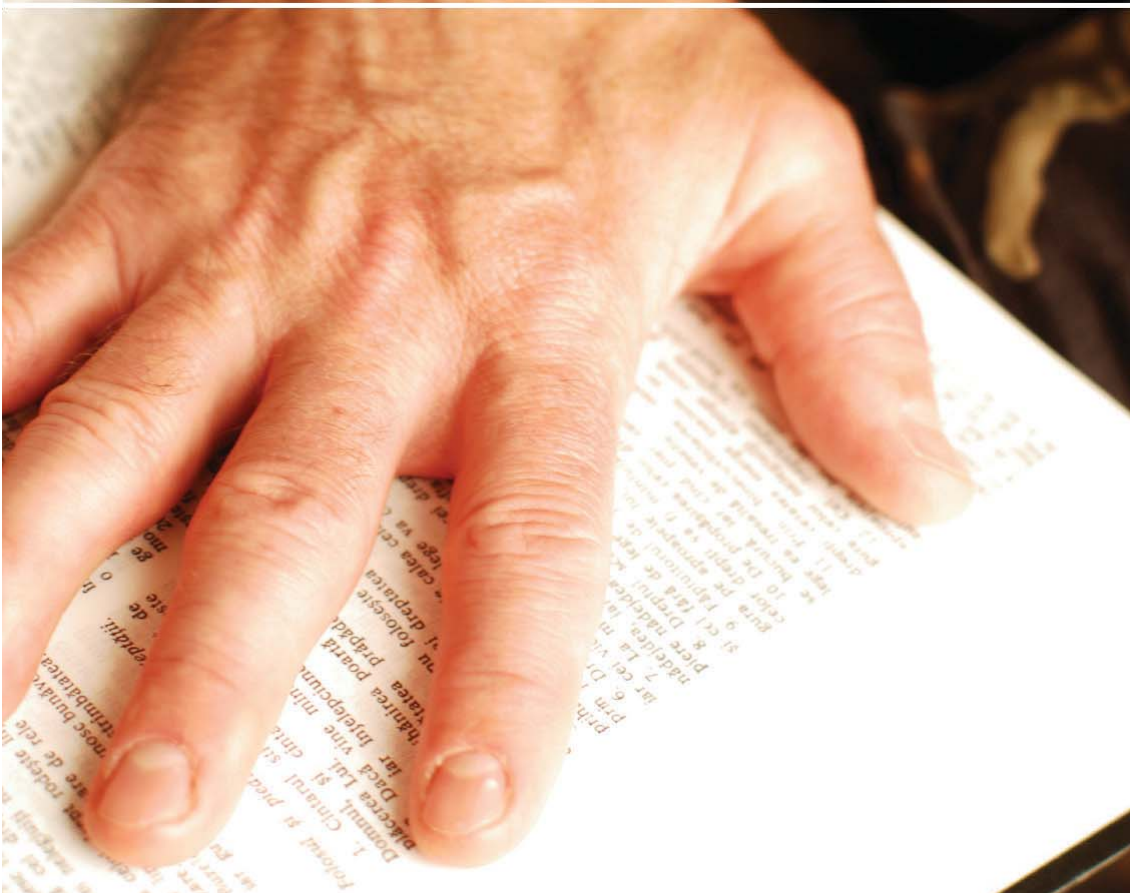




Endorsements in the civilians auxiliary of the U. S. Air Force are handled the same as those of DOD. There are no age, physical, or security criteria. Brochures and information are available upon request from the Director of Chaplains Ministries. For more information about the Civil Air Patrol chaplaincy, please call (619) 569-7964.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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