



# The College of Metaphysical Studies

## **Ministerial Education Program Associate Minister Standards for Graduation and Certification**

The right of graduation from the Associate Minister Program is granted when you provide evidence of being prepared to function as an Associate Minister. This evidence is more than spending a certain length of time in training and completing designated course. Evidence of being prepared to practice the ministry emphasizes spiritual, mental, and emotional maturity; devotion to a life-style of service to others; metaphysical, spiritual and intellectual clarity about the purpose and meaning of the ministry; and the demonstrated skills to work effectively with people, organize one's own life, and understand administrative responsibilities appropriate to your chosen field of service. Specific requirements are:

1. The satisfactory completion of a minimum of 78.5 credit hours of work over a minimum period of one calendar year. This includes the necessary internship of 4 credit hours (60 contact hours) to be performed during this period.
2. Any additional requirements that the faculty may assess as a result of reviews or conferences.
3. All work counted toward the hours required for graduation must be completed with the grade of E (excellent) or S (satisfactory).
4. Evidence of such metaphysical, spiritual, mental, and emotional maturity as will support the judgment, by the faculty, of your readiness and fitness to practice the metaphysical/spiritual ministry.
5. Recommendation of the faculty.

### **Internship, Certification and Licensing**

Graduation from the CMS Associate Minister Program does not mean automatic certification or licensing as an Associate Minister. A student who successfully completes the prescribed one-year course of study shall receive a certificate of completion for each course. Individual Intern Programs will be customized to the availability of each student by the CMS faculty advisor. Service hours performed will be converted to credit hours and entered on the official student transcript. (See Internship, Licensing and Ordination for Certification Programs.)

A student may also begin their Associate Minister Internship Program after completion of fifteen (15) Credit Hours. Once accepted into the intern program the student will then spend the year developing skills and demonstrating ministerial ability by performing such ministerial duties under the supervision of the faculty advisor or an ordained minister. The student is required to perform 60 hours of service time (4 credit hours).

At the successful completion of the internship programs, and upon the recommendation of the faculty advisor or ordained minister the student will become eligible for licensing as an Associate Minister by the New Awareness Ministries, International. The internship might include, but is not limited to the following:

1. Serve as a church administrator or assistant administrator.
2. Serve as an Intern for a period of one year.
3. Serve as a metaphysical/spiritual school teacher.
4. Establish and direct a senior program, a community interaction program, a hospital visitation program, a series of workshops, a course of metaphysical or spiritual studies, etc.

5. Any combination of the above or other projects approved by the CMS.

### **Objectives**

To offer College of Metaphysical Studies students:

- a. Assistance in determining spiritual and metaphysical personal and career objectives.
- b. Opportunities to develop a sense of responsibility.
- c. Hands-on practical experience in the school of learning and the workplace.

### **Expectations**

Students will be expected to:

- a. Apply concepts learned in holistic healing course to practical client situations.
- b. Learn to recognize and adapt behavior and dress to identified professional norms.
- c. Expand professional skills by developing techniques and applying methods learned on site.
- d. Communicate appropriately and work effectively with supervisors, co-workers and others.
- e. Model ethical standards and behaviors.
- f. Demonstrate enthusiasm and willingness to give quality work.
- g. Seek and respond positively to suggestions for professional improvement.

It should be understood that the internship is designed to test "on site" skills of the student, to place the trainee in a situation requiring accountability to a congregation or other group. During the internship the student should make monthly reports (or arrange monthly conferences) with their supervisor to assess progress. Special evaluation forms are provided the supervisor and must be returned to the CMS before service credit can be granted.

At the conclusion of the Associate Minister Internship, the student is a candidate for licensing as Associate Minister by NAMI. Licensing is not an honor automatically conferred after completing course work and the internship program. The quality of the candidate's work is assessed by the New Awareness Ministries International and CMS. An interview with candidates may be required before bestowing ordination, and CMS and NAMI reserve the right to do so.