

What is a CEU?

Continuing **E**ducation **U**nits are an established means of tracking a minister's progress toward the goal of being a lifelong learner. Just as continuing education is essential in the worlds of business, medicine, etc., pastors should have a plan for learning beyond the earning of degrees or meeting the requirements for ordination.

How are CEUs measured?

The most basic formulation is 1 contact hour (think of one hour in a class or lecture) = .1 CEU. Therefore 10 hours of learning equates to 1 CEU.

Why do I need to earn CEUs?

According to the *Manual* (paragraph 426.6), every minister that has graduated from the prescribed course of study is expected to earn at least 2 CEUs per year. These credits are recorded by Clergy Development and may be used in the process of pastoral review and also when a local church is preparing to call a new pastor.

How are CEUs evaluated?

The event, program, or non-credit course being considered for continuing education credit is evaluated according to what aspect of the minister's learning is being expanded. To be considered for continuing education credit, the event or program must focus on the development of at least 1 of the "4 Cs":

Content (think God, the Bible, the Church, etc.)

Competency (deals with nuts and bolts like leadership, preaching, administration)

Character (personal growth, spiritual development, ethics, etc.)

Context (this is your setting, culture, society, the place and time in which you serve)

How do I get the credits I need?

Here are some ways you can earn continuing education credit:

- 1) District sponsored events that have been approved for CEUs
- 2) Regional, national, or web-based denominational events that offer CE credit
- 3) *Institute for Ministry Enrichment* (via NBC) – www.nbcime.com
- 4) Non-degree courses that pertain to your ministry setting (evaluated according to the "4 Cs")
- 5) Reading / writing reports on books approved by the District Ministerial Studies Board
- 6) Other local, regional, or national educational events designed to deepen ministry knowledge and skills (as approved by the district CE coordinator)
- 7) *Grace & Peace* (<http://www.graceandpeacemagazine.org/ceu-credits>) - .1 per issue read

Where can I get my questions answered about CEUs?

The General church resource www.nazarenepastor.org has a link titled "CE Home Page" that can answer the most frequently asked questions about clergy education, including lifelong learning opportunities. If you have questions about a specific program or event in which you have (or hope to) participate and whether it qualifies for continuing education credit please contact the current district CE coordinator (Greg Wooten / pgw@netzero.com).