

Feedback Recently Received by RECC Under Consideration December 2004

Congregational support is critical to the success of a credentialing program – both in terms of providing resources for a religious educator to become credentialed, and to create a market for hiring credentialed religious educators at recommended salaries. Congregations need an incentive to give this support.

The UUA should demonstrate its support of the RE credentialing program by requiring that staff members (headquarters and district) who serve as religious education experts to congregations be credentialed if they are not ordained.

A credential should be a milestone along the path to increasing competence as a religious educator. It should be a way of guiding a religious education professional as s/he grows in his/her profession, providing religious educators with direction toward information and skills that will improve their abilities to do their jobs better. It should be based on training, demonstrated competency and past experience (all of it.) Each level should have expectations about what should be mastered to move on to another level. Every DRE, and in particular every member of LREDA, should be required to be on the path somewhere. We are all on the path, a path that is unending; we will always have more to learn. Most of us need milestones to show where we have been and where we are headed. The credentialing committee should work with each of us to define what we need to do to be better at our jobs. We would be recognized and celebrated when we have done that and move on to the next level.