

CREDENTIALLED, MASTERS LEVEL

Academic Requirement:

Master's degree or equivalent, and
Graduate credit in:

- UU History & Polity History & Philosophy of UU Religious Education
- Learning Theories & Teaching Methods

Professional Experience

Requirement: At least 3 years of paid religious education leadership (at least ½ time) or equivalent

Evaluation Requirements: UUA RECC reviews portfolio and program materials and meets with candidate for evaluation

PROGRAM BENEFITS:

- Stronger, more vital religious education programs;
- Personal self-esteem and professional accomplishment;
- Clear guidelines for professional development;
- More long-term professional viability and tenure in religious education;
- Greater potential for collegial relationships;
- Access to Online DRE Settlement system;
- Salary recommendations that reflect credentialed achievement;
- Institutional support and meaningful recognition of achievement.

**For more information on
the Religious Education
Credentialing Program,
please contact:**

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or visit our web page at

www.uua.org/recredentialing

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CREDENTIALING PROGRAM

**Office of
Religious Education
Credentialing**

**Ministry and Professional
Leadership**

Unitarian Universalist Association



OVERVIEW:

The goal of the Religious Education Credentialing program is to strengthen Unitarian Universalist religious education through the development and professionalization of lay religious educators. It will help to nurture the call to religious education as a profession, provide a comprehensive path for professional development, articulate and uphold professional standards and guidelines, and encourage meaningful institutional recognition of professional achievement.

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM:

The Religious Education Credentialing Program is primarily designed for lay religious education professionals who are committed to Unitarian Universalist religious education as a career, and desire professional development, recognition, and adherence to standards, but do not feel called to the professional ministry. Participants can achieve status in the program as a Credentialed Religious Educator, Associate Level, a Credentialed Religious Educator, or a Credentialed Religious Educator, Masters Level. The three different levels are based on academic achievement, integration of knowledge of lifespan religious education, and length of professional experience. A participant may enter the program at any level.

While a religious educator may work through the levels of the program, this is neither a requirement nor an expectation. Depending on the needs of the individual and the congregation, participants may choose to remain at the credentialing level in which they entered the program. Please note that being accepted into the program at a particular level does not imply an automatic award of status at the preceding level.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

To qualify for achievement of a program status, a participant will submit documentation of academic and professional experience and completing the requirements of:

- A brief statement of intent that describes why the candidate wishes to participate and achieve status in the program;
- An endorsement from persons (lay and professional) attesting to the candidates suitability to the program;
- A reading list;
- A portfolio that reflects understanding and accomplishment in the many areas of lifespan religious education leadership;
- A brief statement that demonstrates the ability to articulate a personal religious philosophy and philosophy of religious education;
- Recommendations from persons (lay and professional) familiar with the participant's professional achievements;

- A relationship with a mentor established through the Liberal Religious Educators Association Mentoring Program.

SPECIFIC LEVEL REQUIREMENTS:

Specific areas of religious education leadership to be included in the portfolio will depend on program level.

CREDENTIALLED, ASSOCIATE LEVEL

Academic Requirement: At least 75 hours of professional training

Professional Experience

Requirement: At least 2 years of paid religious education leadership (at least ¼ time) or equivalent

Evaluation Requirements: Portfolio and program materials reviewed by Religious Education Credentialing Director

CREDENTIALLED

Academic Requirement: Bachelor's degree or equivalent, and seven structured learning experiences beyond 75 hours of professional training

Professional Experience

Requirement: At least 2 years of paid religious education leadership (at least ½ time) or equivalent

Evaluation Requirements: UUA Religious Education Credentialing Committee (RECC) review portfolio and program materials and meet with candidate for evaluation