

Endorsement FAQs

Does the Baptist General Convention of Missouri provide endorsement services? The Baptist General Convention of Missouri provides chaplaincy endorsement services through our partnership with the Baptist General Convention of Texas. We assist endorsement candidates in the application process, may participate in the interview process, and work with the BGCT to provide support and training for chaplains. The Baptist General Convention of Texas is the official endorsing agency.

How do I obtain an endorsement from the BGCT? You may call 214-828-5277 or email chaplaincy@bgct.org and request information for a new endorsement or a transfer of endorsement. The BGCM can also provide this information for you.

Is the BGCT willing to endorse female chaplains? Yes.

If I am divorced is it possible for me to receive BGCT endorsement? Divorce is not a reason you would be prohibited from obtaining a BGCT endorsement.

Can I be endorsed by two Baptist Agencies? No, you can only be endorsed by one agency at a time.

Do you issue a lifetime endorsement? It could be a permanent endorsement only if you remain in the same position at your institution and they do not require updates. We endorse to a specific position. If you are with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice then endorsement is good for one year only. Each year YOU must request a letter from our office to be sent to Huntsville indicating you are endorsed by us and in good standing.

Do you offer fellowships for your endorsed chaplains? Yes, the BGCT has a retreat on the 3rd Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in October each year for our chaplains who are not Pastoral Counselors. They have a separate retreat specifically to meet the schedules of our Pastoral Counselors. The Baptist General Convention of Missouri will also periodically provide fellowships for chaplains.

What are the requirements for a BGCT endorsement? They are available from the BGCT website (www.bgct.org) in PDF files and provide a list of the requirements for either a NEW Endorsement or a Transfer of Endorsement.

What is the next step after I receive the requirements? You will send your paperwork to Chaplaincy Relations, BGCT, 333 N Washington, Dallas, TX 75246-1798. A file will be created for you. Dr. Bobby Smith, Director of Chaplaincy Relations, will review your submitted paperwork. He will contact you and set up an interview. (You will want to be sure and provide email addresses and contact information.)

Do you have contact with your chaplains? Yes, there will be various forms of communication with our endorsed chaplains. We will be sending emails, making telephone calls, onsite visits, etc. Certainly, we are available to be contacted by our endorsed chaplains. Dr. Bobby Smith, Director of Chaplaincy Relations, may be contacted at 214-828-5381. His Ministry Assistant, Reba Gram, may be contacted at 214-828-5277. Both may be reached through the toll free number at 888-311-3900.

Do you endorse chaplains who live outside of Texas? Yes. Many of our military chaplains serve in other states. We also have endorsed chaplains who serve in states where their state convention has not yet been approved as an endorsing agency. Our partnership with the Baptist General Convention of Missouri includes providing endorsements for their chaplains.

You may email chaplaincy@bgct.org for the questions you have which have not been answered on this page.

Can I be endorsed to a volunteer position? Yes, if the institution where you serve requires an endorsement.

I am almost through with my seminary training. Can I be endorsed as a student? Yes.

Are college transcripts required? Yes.

I am a military chaplain do you require any DOD forms? Yes, you will complete a DD2088, which is a Department of Defense Form, and send it to us. It is your responsibility to complete the personal information as well as that information regarding your rank and your months of service. We will complete the portion referring to us as your endorser and we will mail it to the appropriate Chief of Chaplains' office.

I am interested in a chaplaincy candidacy program and have military experience. What do I submit to you to show my recorded military time served? Please submit a DD214. This will show your exact time served.

E-mail: chaplaincy@bgct.org
Phone: 214-828-5277