How to Apply

- Find a program that matches the experience you want to have.
- Complete the necessary application materials, using the ACPE common application form (available at www.acpe.edu). The application requires essay questions and references, so give yourself plenty of time.
- Apply directly to your selected CPE programs, following the guidelines of each program. Most programs require a written application and an interview. There may be an application fee.
- Once the interview is complete and you have been accepted to a program, notify the Office of Contextual Education.

How Do I Register for Credit?

1. Complete the online CPE (CE 696R) Registration Form, found on the CPE page of the Candler Con Ed website.  
2. The Director of CPE will approve your request and will notify the Registrar, who will enroll you in CE 696R.
3. Once you have successfully completed CPE, your CPE Supervisor will submit your final evaluation to the Con Ed Office.

Post-Graduation Opportunities

If you enroll in an introductory unit after graduation, Candler is not involved in the process.

Students who have completed a unit of CPE during seminary may apply to do a CPE Residency following graduation. A residency is a 9 or 12 month program that combines clinical work with ongoing supervision and education. It is usually a position that pays a stipend and may carry benefits. A residency is the next step for a career in chaplaincy or can be a meaningful year of discernment.

Can I Earn Candler Academic Credit?

YES!

You may earn up to six credit hours for completing one unit of CPE.
What is CPE?

CPE is the nationally certified program that provides supervised training in pastoral care and counseling.

Why Take CPE?

CPE is theological and professional education for ministry. It is also an intensely personal experience undertaken in fellowship with others who are seeking to develop their sense of pastoral identity and capacity to provide spiritual care. While CPE programs are often based in healthcare, social service, and community settings, the skills developed in CPE are relevant for all types of ministry. Many UMC Annual Conferences and other denominations require a unit of CPE for ordination. CPE also provides the professional training required for a career in chaplaincy.

A Typical Day in CPE Includes...

- Providing care to hospital patients and their families, clients, or others in need
- Meeting with your supervisor to reflect on your experiences
- Peer group meetings for mutual sharing and support, as well as reflection on ministry experiences and interpersonal relationships
- Leading worship at your site
- Discussion of a book or article
- Workshops, lectures, or seminars on topics related to your work (such as interfaith ministry, addiction and recovery, end of life concerns, trauma)

What is a CPE Unit?

ACPE-certified CPE is offered in units. Each consists of a minimum of 400 hours: 300 hours of clinical site work, plus 100 hours of educational activities.

The Cost

Most programs charge $400-$500 tuition for an introductory unit. Students are responsible for paying tuition directly to their CPE site. Students should plan ahead for these expenses.

When Can I Take CPE?

- Summer (10-12 weeks, full time)
- Semester (14-15 weeks)
- Full academic year (9 months)

All options include 400 hours of training.

Where Can I Take CPE?

Accredited CPE programs are located across the country. There are many options in Georgia and metro Atlanta. You can find a list of these programs on the CPE section of the Candler Con Ed website.

For a list of all accredited CPE sites, their locations and unique offerings and application information, visit the ACPE website at http://www.acpe.edu/