How do I apply for CPE?

- Identify potential CPE programs. Think about what kind of CPE experience you want or need to have.
- Complete the necessary application materials, using the ACPE common application form (available at [www.acpe.edu](http://www.acpe.edu)).
- 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 academic credit?

Students may obtain academic credit through Candler by completing the following steps:

- Complete the online CPE (CE546) Registration Form, found on the CPE page of the Candler Contextual Education website.
- The Director of CPE will approve your request and will notify the Registrar, who will enroll you in CE546.
- Once you have successfully completed CPE, your CPE Supervisor will submit your final CPE evaluation to the Con Ed Office.

Note: Some spring CPE programs do not conclude until after Emory’s graduation. Students who plan to enroll in CPE for academic credit in their final semester must consult with the Con Ed Office early in their planning process to determine whether CPE enrollment will prevent them from full participation in commencement.

Can I do CPE after I graduate?

If students wish to enroll in CPE after graduating from Candler, they will apply directly to a site and make financial arrangements with the site. Candler’s Office of Contextual Education and Registrar are not involved in this process.

Post-graduation CPE Residencies

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.
Can I earn credit?

Yes! You may earn up to six credit hours for completing one unit of CPE.

CPE Programs in Diverse Settings

- Accredited CPE programs are located across the country, including a dozen sites in Georgia and in a diverse range of programs in metro Atlanta. You can find a list of these programs on the CPE section of the Candler Contextual Education 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/.
- Academic credit is granted by Candler for work at ACPE-accredited CPE programs.

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 health care, social service, and community settings, the skills developed in CPE are relevant for many types of ministry.

Preparation for Diverse Vocational Paths

CPE can be part of your preparation for parish ministry, chaplaincy, lay ministry, non-profit leadership, teaching, and counseling. You may choose to focus your CPE learning goals on integrating theological, psychological, and pastoral insights into parish work, or on career goals related to chaplaincy or pastoral counseling.

Note: Some denominations, conferences, or judicatories require CPE for ordination. CPE also provides the professional training needed for a career in chaplaincy.

A Typical Day in CPE

Since the heart of CPE is ministering and learning from the experience, a typical day of CPE might include a variety of activities:

- 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 multifaith ministry, addiction and recovery, end-of-life concerns, trauma).

What is a CPE Unit?

ACPE-certified CPE is offered in “units,” each of which includes a minimum of 400 hours: 300 hours of clinical site work, plus 100 hours of educational activities, such as those described above. Candler students may earn up to 6 credit hours for one unit of CPE.

When can I do CPE?

Most CPE programs offer introductory units of CPE during the summer (10-12 weeks, full-time). In addition, many programs offer introductory units that extend over the course of a single semester (14-15 weeks) or a full academic year (9 months). These extended units spread the 400 hours of training over a longer period, and therefore require fewer hours per week.