

**Louisiana Conference  
Board of Ordained Ministry  
Policy Number 104  
Changing Orders ¶ 309.2-3**

“Upon recommendation of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry and vote of the clergy members in full connection in an annual conference, elders may be received as deacons in full connection, and deacons in full connection may be received as elders, providing they are in good standing and have:

- a) informed the bishop and district superintendent of their intention,
- b) applied in writing to the board of ordained ministry
- c) articulated their call to the ministry of the deacon or the elder,
- d) completed all academic and other requirements for admission to the order for which they are applying ¶ 324, ¶ 330, ¶ 335, and
- e) completed at least two years under appointment while licensed for pastoral ministry or for specialized ministry of the deacon.”
  - 1) If the transitioning person has not participated in and completed a three-year Resident In Ministry (RIM) process in the Louisiana Conference, they will be required to go through that process meeting all the requirements for the Order into which they are changing.
  - 2) If the transitioning person has already completed a three-year RIM process in the Louisiana Conference, they will be required to go through a minimum of two years of supervision with the division to which they are transitioning and be assigned a mentor from that division. During this time, they will attend appropriate division interview meetings.

Such persons shall retain their credentials and full membership in the annual conference through the transition period from one order to the other. When ordained to the order to which they are transitioning, they shall surrender to the conference secretary the credentials of the order from which they are leaving.

**Policy adopted by the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry on June 5, 2006**

**Revised wording to be consistent with the 2012 Book of Discipline on March 1, 2013**