



COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY, SECTION A
Northern California Nevada Conference, United Church of Christ
16190 Foothill Blvd., San Leandro, CA 94578.

INFORMATION FOR REQUIRED VOCATIONAL / PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
for those seeking authorization for ministry

The vocational / psychological assessment is a program of multiple choice tests and interviews with a ministry candidate, conducted by qualified professionals. The resulting report provides you, the candidate, and the Committee on Ministry with insight into individual personal growth, challenges, gifts, and the alignment between strengths, goals, and the work of ministry.

TIMING. You are strongly encouraged to initiate the assessment as soon as possible after being received In Discernment by NCNC. This provides maximum opportunity for both you and COM to embrace and respond to the information provided. The assessment is required before you can be seen for an ordination interview.

LOCATIONS / AGENCIES. The assessment requires a day (or portions of several days), plus written work prepared by you in advance. Currently, there are two agencies available to NCNC candidates. The Center for Ministry places you in contact with a counselor in your area. ICC is in San Anselmo. Contacts and fees are noted below, and subject to change.

The Interfaith Counseling Center (ICC)

15 Austin Avenue
San Anselmo, CA 94960
Rev. Scott Sullender, Ph.D.
Cell Phone: 415-450-0956
www.ScottSullender.com
info@interfaithcounselingcenter.com

The Center for Ministry in the West

Rev. Lily Lue Stearns, Berkeley, CA
John P. Sullivan, Santa Clara, CA
(206)920-2675, center4ministry@gmail.com
Individual Assessment \$1795
(Installment/payment plan available)

Fee for program, all testing, interviewing
& report (may require multiple visits): \$900

FINANCIAL SUPPORT. There is significant expense for the assessment. NCNC *custom* has been that the **fee is divided 3 ways** – among (a) the candidate, (b) the Local Church recognizing the candidate as a Member in Discernment, and (c) the Association of which the church and candidate are a part. To obtain the contact information for your Association please call or email the NCNC Conference Offices. You are responsible to contact your church and Association to request and arrange for payment. Associations are generally aware and prepared to make this contribution upon request. You should discuss the anticipated financial contribution with your church at the time you request In Discernment status with them. Not all churches are necessarily able to make this contribution.

CONFIDENTIALITY. **The contents of the report are confidential.** The counseling agency prepares the report in draft form and sends it to you. You then review the report in its entirety and may contact the agency to request correction to any errors of fact. When you approve the report, you will be asked to sign a release so that it can be shared with the NCNC Associate Conference Minister for Authorization for Ministry. At that point, you will receive a final copy and a copy will be sent to

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NCNC. It will be shared securely with the members of the COM, and a hard copy will be placed in your file. The report is not printable from the electronic site.