

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Chaplaincy
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1. How do I become a CAP Chaplain?

A: First you must first meet all requirements for senior membership in CAP. This includes submitting a fingerprint card for a background check, making application to National Headquarters and paying dues. The official website, <http://www.gocivilairpatrol.com>, has more information on the process.

After becoming a senior member, you can apply to become a CAP Chaplain. You can contact the Wing CAP Chaplain in your state for an application and additional information.

CAP Chaplains must have an Ecclesiastical Endorsement from the Foursquare Church and possess a four year Bachelors degree. Three years of study accredited by Association of Theological Schools is also required. Waivers may be granted for those without a graduate degree but having five years of professional pastoral experience.

2. If I am a clergy member, can I volunteer without becoming a CAP Chaplain?

A: You can volunteer for up to six months in your local CAP Squadron. You will need the approval of your state's Wing Chaplain and must always be accompanied by a senior member.

3. Will I work with other faith groups in CAP?

A: Yes, you can expect to interact with all the faith groups represented in your community.

4. What will I do as a CAP Chaplain?

A: The duties of a squadron chaplain are varied. They will include the following:

- *Advisor to the commander on issues related to morals and ethics*
- *Monthly instruction to the cadets on character and ethics development*
- *Chaplaincy support to the squadron in areas such as counseling of members*
- *Providing religious support at squadron and wing functions such as meetings, encampments and banquets*

CAP Chaplains can also become certified as Mission Chaplains. In that role they provide direct support to the flying and search and rescue areas of the CAP mission. These functions might include:

- *Support for families and survivors of the victims*
- *Support for personnel and aircrews directly involved in the rescue/disaster*
- *Crisis Intervention Stress Management (CISM) if qualified*

5. How much time will it require?

A: A squadron meets weekly for about 2 ½ hours. You must attend at least once a month for Character and Ethics training for the cadets. The more you function within your squadron, the stronger the relationships with other members. Your support for other functions will depend on the other life commitments you have made.

6. Will I be able to fly?

A: You can function as an aircrew member if you desire. This will require you to complete other training involving both ground and flying. You can also be trained as a member of a ground search and rescue team.

7. How do I get started?

- *A: Find a CAP meeting in your local area and attend. Meeting locations can be found by going to the CAP website: <http://www.gocivilairpatrol.com>*
- *Attend a meeting or two. If possible, attend the meeting where the Character and Ethics lesson is taught.*
- *If you find that you want to proceed with the Chaplaincy, contact the Wing Chaplain. The senior members at the meeting should be able to provide contact information. Set up a meeting with the Wing Chaplain to determine what opportunities are available for you. At that time, he can provide you an application for the Chaplaincy and outline a training program.*
- *If you decide to continue, proceed with an application as a senior member.*
- *Once you are a senior member, submit your application as a CAP Chaplain.*
- *Contact Foursquare Chaplains (see below) to being processing your endorsement*

8. How does this relate to Foursquare?

- *A: Foursquare Chaplains supports over 170 Chaplains serving in a number of functions – from active duty to fire, police, hospital, CAP and others*
- *You will require a Foursquare endorsement to become a CAP Chaplain.*
- *Foursquare Chaplains will link you with other Foursquare CAP Chaplains.*

9. What does Foursquare provide for its Chaplain's?

A: We have an annual Chaplains Conference either immediately before or after the annual Foursquare Convention. You are expected to attend this in addition to the CHaplains Conference as outlined in the Church By-Laws. This conference will include training opportunities as well as networking.

10. What will Foursquare require?

A: You will be expected to submit a quarterly summary of your ministry functions that will be combined by the department to share with the Foursquare National Board.

If you have questions about Civil Air Patrol, contact:

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To start your endorsement process, go to the Foursquare Chaplains website: chaplains.foursquare.org and click the link on the left column "How to Become a Chaplain".

For more information about Foursquare Chaplaincy, contact us at chaplains@foursquare.org. Comments about this document are also welcome.