

LCMS Church
Professional Programs

at **CUC**



 Truth
Freedom
Vocation

Called to
serve

Concordia University Chicago

AN INSTITUTION OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Answering the call to serve



Deaconess Studies

A deaconess shares the Gospel through mercy, spiritual care and teaching the Faith. Students in CUC's deaconess program become fully certified in the LCMS after four years of college plus a one-year paid internship. Learn from veteran theology professors and deaconesses who have prepared over 200 deaconesses. You may even study in England! Through rigorous coursework and field experience, our program prepares you for compassionate service in congregations, agencies or mission fields. Take advantage of the university setting and our faculty's real-world experience to develop diaconal skills in caregiving, social work, music, Spanish, biblical languages or nonprofit business.



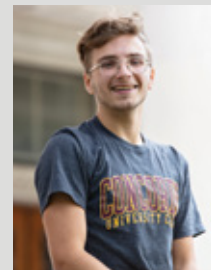
the certification with your bachelor's—and it only takes 5 years. Plus, you get to be in the field a lot faster, which I really like."

Sarah Bjornstad,
theology major (deaconess program),
from Mankato, MN

“ With other universities, you get your undergraduate degree and then go to seminary for your deaconess certification. It's usually a 7- to 8-year program to complete, but at CUC, you get

Director of Christian Education (DCE)

A director of Christian education (DCE) serves within a congregation as part of a ministry team with pastors and other staff members. Depending on your unique talents and interests, you might work in the areas of parish education, children's ministry, youth ministry, small group ministry, young adult ministry, family ministry or in the music ministry of a congregation. CUC's DCE program takes advantage of Chicago's rich learning environment by providing students with local opportunities to develop practical skills through field experience and servant events.



“ What's nice about DCE is that you're in the theology world, as well as the education world. I really enjoy the theology department and how professors

are willing to go in-depth about any topic they discuss. In education, it's awesome to have professors who know what they're doing, are willing to share their experiences and how they relate to education theory.”

Benjamin Simmons,
director of Christian education major,
theology and education minors,
from Westminster, MD



Since 1864, Concordia University Chicago has prepared students like you for church professions serving The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregations, schools and ministries, nationwide and abroad.

Director of Parish Music (DPM)

A director of parish music (DPM) serves as a leader of music in a local congregation. DPMs lead by playing the organ or piano, directing a variety of choral and instrumental groups, and helping to plan worship services with the pastor. The DPM program at CUC is a certificate program, based on the liberal arts music major, and includes specialized coursework in church music and performance, as well as an internship in a local congregation.

“The parish music program helps with individual growth. I had been playing the organ for years, but needed support with choral conducting, so that’s the focus of my internship. I really like the opportunities I get with CUC’s music program, such as touring with the Wind Symphony or performing at Carnegie Hall—a dream venue I would never have experienced otherwise.”



Jessica Wilson, music major (director of parish music certificate program), theology minor, from Indianapolis, IN

Lutheran Teacher Education (LTE)

Concordia University Chicago’s Lutheran teacher education (LTE) program will equip you with the education and licensure necessary to become a teacher in any of the 1,800+ Lutheran schools in the U.S. The LTE program is combined with your choice of programs in the College of Education: early childhood, elementary, middle grades, secondary, special education, and K-12 art, music, physical education or Spanish. CUC education programs are accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), exceed the requirements of the state of Illinois and meet rigorous national accreditation standards.

“As a freshman, I was able to observe classrooms. That’s not the case at other schools I researched. They make you wait until junior or senior year to observe. Here, they get you in straightaway to see if it’s the right fit. The professors are amazing, and small class sizes make it easy to connect.”



Michelle Frerking, middle school education (LTE) major (science and English endorsement), from Fort Wayne, IN

Pre-Seminary Program

Pastors have a wide range of responsibilities within the Church. They not only lead worship, but also assist with education, evangelism, counseling, social ministry and the day-to-day administration of both congregations and other charitable institutions. Concordia-Chicago’s pre-seminary program guides students in the process of discernment, while also preparing them for further studies. Upon receiving your degree, you will be recognized as having completed a program of study that competently prepares you to attend the seminary of your choice.

“What I like about CUC’s pre-seminary program is how close-knit everyone is. Students get together every week and the theology professors are very approachable. Everyone in the department is friendly. CUC is also in an area with lots of churches and has many opportunities to serve. A community with strong faith is a good support system for me.”



Noah Dunsmore, philosophy and theological languages double major (pre-seminary program), theology minor, from White Lake, MI

Contact the Office of Undergraduate Admission

for more information about church professional awards and scholarships

Church professional students share their Christian faith and make a positive difference in the lives of people of all backgrounds, in a variety of settings. High-quality academic instruction at CUC and many internship and service possibilities equip students to be successful in their future ministries. They will be part of a community devoted to the intellectual and spiritual growth of each member.

Scholarships and Awards

Concordia University Chicago recognizes the commitment students and families make to a Lutheran education. The University provides a generous financial aid package designed for students seeking church professional degrees. Incoming freshmen may be eligible to receive:

- Pillars Scholarship
- Church Professional Leadership Award
- Lutheran High School Award*
- Lutheran Servant Award*
- Alumni Award*

Career Placement

Successful graduates of the LTE, DCE, DPM and deaconess professional programs are eligible for a call as commissioned ministers in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The University's director of synodical placement works to match each graduate's skills and ministry goals with the needs of various ministries in the Church. Successful pre-seminary graduates are fully equipped and recommended for entrance into one of the seminaries of the LCMS.

**Contact the Office of Undergraduate Admission for a list of eligible programs, and details about scholarships and awards.*



Visit Today!

Register online at CUChicago.edu/visit, call the Office of Undergraduate Admission at **708-209-3100** or scan the QR code below.



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Concordia University Chicago is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). The University admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students of the University. While it does give preference to members of the Lutheran faith, it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies and loan programs, and athletic and other University-administered programs.