



April 1, 2017

Dear APC® Members and BCCI® Candidates,

In 2004, six chaplain and spiritual care organizations collaborated to create and affirm the Common Standards for Professional Chaplaincy. To date, these standards have been widely accepted by spiritual care organizations and practicing chaplains around the world with the collective goal of delivering the greatest possible spiritual care.

As our profession continues to grow and advance, the five remaining certifying organizations convened to review and update these standards with input from chaplains that have gone through the certification process and serve professionally as a Board Certified Chaplain in order to maintain the quality of our certification. Through an extensive collaboration of strategic partnerships, as a unified voice, we are proud to introduce the Certification for Professional Spiritual Care: Common Qualifications and Competencies to our memberships which will continue to promote quality chaplaincy care through updated professional standards.

This update is meant for all chaplains and spiritual care specialists who are driven to be the best in their profession. To learn more about these revisions and updates, please visit the APC® website at [www.professionalchaplains.org](http://www.professionalchaplains.org) and click on the BCCI® Certification link on the top banner.

Regards,

Association of Professional Chaplains

*The groups below have affirmed the updated Common Qualifications and Competencies:*

Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE)

Association of Professional Chaplains (APC)

Canadian Association for Spiritual Care/Association Canadienne de Soins Spirituel (CASC/ACSS)

National Association of Catholic Chaplains (NACC)

Neshama: Association of Jewish Chaplains (NAJC)