Program Information: This program is designed primarily for theological students enrolled in seminary, although others such as clergy, qualified laypersons, or those preparing for professional chaplaincy are welcome to apply. This is a 12-week, full-time Level I Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program, designed to accommodate those in a graduate academic program or other ministry workers with schedule availability for an intensive (40+ hours), three month-long clinical immersion experience. The total hours required to earn ACPE credit for this unit equal 400, of which a minimum of 300 hours are spent in direct patient care and 100 hours in educational activities. Weekly reading and writing assignments are also required.

Required Weekly Hours: All students must be available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., which are the primary class/clinical visiting days and times. The first five CPE class days on June 1st-5th will occur from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm and are devoted to Orientation. Those days will largely be spent on orientation to the Department of Spiritual Care, the CPE program, your role as a student chaplain and the clinical units where patient visits will occur. Additional weekly visiting hours and on-call shift information, beginning week two and beyond: Starting the week of June 8th, you will begin visiting patients. CPE class time occurs on Monday-Thursday mornings from 8:00 am-12 noon, with 12:30-4:30 pm on those days dedicated to patient visits on your assigned medical units. Fridays are clinical visiting days with no classes. In addition to class and visiting time, you will also have one hour of individual supervision time with the ACPE Certified Educator. This will occur once a week by mutual arrangement. Periodic in-house on-call shifts also occur throughout the unit, and these may be individually scheduled on weeknights, weekends and/or holidays. A minimum of 7 such shifts, which last either 8 or 12 hours depending on the time of day selected, will fulfill the requirement of 300+ total patient care hours when combined with your regular weekday visiting times over 12 weeks.

Admission Requirements: Applicants must have a high school diploma, a bachelor’s degree, and some graduate-level theological education and ministry experience. Any request for exceptions to these requirements should be directed to Rev. Heather Weidemann, Director of Spiritual Care and ACPE Certified Educator. Applicants will be assessed by the ACPE Certified Educator, the Spiritual Care Manager, and other staff in an interview for their readiness for clinical learning, suitability for functioning in the chaplain role, and capacity for serving according to the hospital’s expectations.

Application: All CPE programs require the use of the ACPE application form found at the ACPE website: acpe.edu/ACPE/Resources/Forms.aspx. Applications will be accepted starting September 1, 2020 for this Summer 2021 CPE Unit. Completed applications can be mailed or emailed to kgrover1@mmc.org. Receipt of applications is acknowledged within four business days. Due to volume of applicants, not all applicants are interviewed.

Tuition total for Summer Intensive Unit: $1200.00

The Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program at Maine Medical Center is fully accredited to offer Levels I & II CPE and Certified Educator CPE by ACPE (the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education), Inc. 55 Ivan Allen Jr. Blvd, Suite 835, Atlanta, GA 30308 USA; phone 404-320-1472; Web www.acpe.edu.