

Chaplain

■ Job Description

A chaplain is a clergyperson, Roman Catholic sister, or deacon with clinical pastoral education. The chaplain utilizes clinical and pastoral skills to assist the treatment team in giving care to the sick. Special focus is given to developing the religious resources of the ill in the healing process.

■ Job Settings

Hospitals, prisons, hospices, mental health facilities, drug and alcohol centers, geriatric facilities, and other health care facilities.

■ Projected Need

Both nationally and in Illinois, overall employment growth for clergy is expected to be about as fast as average through the year 2010. Job outlook, however, varies with the individual religious group. Shortages will exist for clergy of the Roman Catholic faith and for rabbis. A slight surplus of Protestant ministers will create competition for many of the job opportunities.

About 8,410 people were employed in this medium-sized occupation in Illinois in 2000.

■ Salaries

Earnings vary with denomination, location, size and wealth of the congregation. Nationally, the median wage for clergy is \$16.27 per hour. Half of all clergy earn between \$11.79 and \$21.52 per hour.

In Illinois, the median wage is \$17.20 per hour. Experienced clergy earn \$21.50 per hour.

■ Related Educational Programs

The programs of study listed below are the recommended areas of study to pursue for this occupation. Clicking on these will lead to files that show in-state and national schools that offer these programs.

The following link(s) will take you to CIS for more information. CIS requires an ID and password that can be obtained at <http://cis.ilworkinfo.com/loginhelp/> You must log into CIS prior to clicking on the links below.

[Clinical Pastoral Counseling](#) [Pastoral Studies and Counseling](#)

■ Credentials

Professionally trained chaplains are certified by one of several pastoral care groups: American Association of Pastoral Counselors, College of Chaplains, Association of Mental Health Clergy, and/or the National Association of Catholic Chaplains. The amount of training for various chaplaincy specialties varies; information can be obtained by contacting the certifying associations. All certifying groups require clinical pastoral training, and the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education is the major training association.

■ Resources

American Association of Pastoral Counselors
9504-A Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22031-2303
Phone: 703.385.6967
E-mail: info@aapc.org
<http://www.aapc.org>

Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE)
1549 Clairmont Road, Suite 103
Decatur, GA 30033-4611
Phone: 404.320.1472
<http://www.acpe.edu>

Association of Professional Chaplains
1701 E. Woodfield Road, Suite 760
Schaumburg, IL 60173
Phone: 847.240.1014
E-mail: info@professionalchaplains.org
<http://www.professionalchaplains.org>

National Association of Catholic Chaplains
3501 S. Lake Drive
P.O. Box 07473
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0473
Phone: 414.483.4898
E-mail: info@nacc.org
<http://www.nacc.org>