

New York Presbyterian Hospital CPE Application – Essay Responses

**Note: Please type your answers using a standard word processor (e.g., MS Word). On the Essay page of the online application, use the “Choose File” button to upload your responses to our server (allowable file formats include pdf, doc, docx, xls, csv, txt, rtf, and html). We ask that you answer all five questions, although you may combine items 1 and 2 into a single essay. If combined, the essay should be at least six single-spaced pages in length within a standard word processor, and should clearly indicate in the heading that it is a response to both questions. Be sure to type your name at the top of your document.*

1. A reasonably full account of your life.

Include, for example, significant and important persons and events, especially as they have impacted, or continue to impact, your personal growth and development. Describe your family of origin, current family relationships, and important and supportive social relationships. This essay should be at least three single-spaced, typed pages (or at least six single-spaced, typed pages if your response is combined with item 2, below).

2. A description of your spiritual growth and development.

Include, for example, the faith heritage into which you were born and describe and explain any subsequent personal conversions, your call to ministry, religious experiences, and significant persons and events that have impacted, or continue to impact, your spiritual growth and development. This essay should also be at least three single-spaced, typed pages.

3. A description of your work (vocational) history.

Include, for example, your resume or a chronological list of jobs/positions/dates of employment and a brief statement about your current employment and work relationships.

4. An account of a “helping incident” in which you were the person who provided the help.

Include the nature and extent of the request, your assessment of the issue(s), problem(s), and situation(s). Describe how you came to be involved and what you did. Give a brief, evaluative commentary on what you did and how you believe you were able to help. If you have had prior and recent CPE, please attach a copy of a recent verbatim as your 'helping incident' and add to the verbatim your own notes on how and what you learned from sharing this verbatim with your supervisor and/or peers. If you have had CPE, but it was more than two years ago, include a recent account of a helping incident, written up in a verbatim format. If possible, include feedback from current pastoral colleagues and/or administrative supervisor.

5. Your impressions of Clinical Pastoral Education.

Indicate, for example, what you believe or imagine CPE to be. Indicate if CPE is being required of you. Indicate any learning goals or issues of which you are aware and would like to address in CPE. Finally, indicate how CPE may be able to help you meet needs generated by your ministry or call to ministry. If you have had prior CPE, please indicate the most significant learning experience you had during CPE. State how you have continued to use the clinical method since your previous experience. Indicate strengths and weaknesses that you have as they relate to your ministry and your identity as a professional person. Indicate any personal and/or professional learning goals and issues that you have at this time and how you believe that CPE will help you to attain or address these learning goals and issues.