

MDiv Equivalency Process for DMin Applicants – UPDATED SPRING 2025

The ATS accreditation standards for Doctor of Ministry (DMin) programs require applicants who do not hold a Master of Divinity (MDiv) to demonstrate how they meet the following criteria, rephrased here as questions:

- How have you developed and demonstrated your skills to thoughtfully interpret scripture and the theological tradition of your ministry context?
- How have you developed and demonstrated the capacity to understand and adapt your ministry to the cultural context in which you serve?
- How would you describe your self-understanding of your ministerial identity and vocational calling?
- In what ways have you engaged in ongoing personal and spiritual formation for your ministry?
- Have you earned an accredited master's degree (or its educational equivalent) in an area related to your ministry setting or vocational calling?
- DMin applicants should have 3+ years of full-time ministry experience. Describe your ministerial experience and how it will enable you to engage as a ministry peer with other students in this advanced professional doctorate program?

If you do not hold a Master of Divinity degree, but have significant graduate theological education and meet the other application requirements for the Doctor of Ministry program at BU STH, you will need to complete the following steps:

- **Prepare a short essay that addresses each of the questions above.** You can include any documents or artifacts that evidence each point. You can also answer this in a narrative form, reflecting on each point and discussing how your own vocational placements and educational training have prepared you with these capacities.
- **Add the document(s) to your application and email directly to the Director of Online and Hybrid Programs, Dr. Debbie Brubaker (brubaker@bu.edu).**
- **Complete a brief interview (30 min) with the Academic Dean and the Director.** Once our Admissions Committee has had the opportunity to review your materials, you will be invited to have a conversation with the Academic Dean and the Program Director.

Please contact the Program Director, Dr. Debbie Brubaker, with any questions.