

## ALABAMA BAPTIST CONFERENCE OF THE DEAF BOARD MEMBER GUIDELINES

### **ABCD GUIDELINE'S INTRODUCTION**

The New Testament speaks often of overseers who are entrusted with the spiritual oversight of the local congregation. These individuals are called of God and recognized by the church as specifically gifted and spiritually mature. Without these overseers, much of the ministry will go unfinished. This is a tremendous and significant ministry.

The ministry of the Alabama Baptist Conference of the Deaf (ABCD) is no different than the Church apart from fulfilling the call of God to minister to the Alabama Deaf Churches and Deaf Ministries.

The role of a ABCD Board is a holy calling which includes functioning as a spiritual overseer as well as giving guidance and setting policy for ongoing ministries and programs within the ABCD. Following are qualifications, criteria and responsibilities involved with this vital position of leadership with the ABCD ministry. **The local Alabama SBC Deaf Churches and Deaf ministries should appoint a board member to represent their church at ABCD. Any appointed board members should be Deaf and must be able to communicate in American Sign Language. All appointed Board members should be members of SBC churches that follow the Faith & Baptist Message (2000)**

### **BIBLICAL QUALIFICATIONS**

- A. Give both verbal testimony and lifestyle evidence of being born again. (John 3:3)
- B. Demonstrate the fruit of the Spirit in daily life. (Galatians 5:22)
- C. Be a person of honesty and integrity. (Acts 6:3; I Timothy 3:8)
- D. Seek daily to be filled with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:4; 6:3; Ephesians 5:18)
- E. Be a person of wisdom. (Acts 6:3)

### **IMPORTANT GUIDELINES**

As a Board Member, you will strive to:

- A. Give testimony to a regular daily time of prayer and Bible reading.
- B. Be "growing in the grace and in the knowledge of the Lord." (2 Peter 3:18)
- C. Be submissive to spiritual leadership.
- D. Possess a joyful spirit.
- E. Attend and be active in your local SBC Church Ministry's public worship services faithfully.
- F. Consistently tithe to this local church and give offerings as God leads.
- G. Honor and keep all confidences.
- H. Be able to attend Board meetings. There may be times when another meeting may be called by the ABCD Board Chairperson, as the need indicates.
- I. Be a messenger to share information about ABCD with your local SBC church.

### **SPIRITUAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A. Provide leadership for the church through participation in ABCD and ministries outside of ABCD.
- B. Pray for the ABCD attenders and other ABCD Board members often.
- C. In general, be a good example of a Spirit-filled Christian servant.