

# Accreditation and Educational Effectiveness

## Accreditation

ABSW is accredited by:

The Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools (ATS)  
In the United States and Canada

10 Summit Park Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15275 USA

Phone: 412/788-6505

Fax: 412/788-6510

Website: [www.ats.edu](http://www.ats.edu)

The Following degree programs are approved by ATS: MDiv, MCL, DMin

## Statement of Educational Effectiveness

The American Baptist Seminary of the West is committed to the highest standards of educational effectiveness in all of its academic programs. Measures of educational effectiveness include the length of time that students take to complete their degrees and placement after graduation in positions appropriate to their vocational objectives.

## Masters Programs

Both of ABSW's Masters programs (MDiv and MCL) are advanced academic degrees intended to prepare students for professional careers in pastoral ministries, teaching, writing, and scholarship, as well as for leadership opportunities with religious organizations, social service agencies, foundations, museums, libraries, publishing, and in educational institutions.

The normative time to degree for these programs is 3 to 4 yrs for the MDiv and 2 yrs for the MCL. The table below shows the time to degree for the 12 master's students that graduated in the 2013-2014 academic year. Five of the MDiv students graduated within 4 years, one graduated within 4.5 years, 1 graduated within 6 years. Three of the MCL students graduated within 2 years, one graduated within 3 years, and one graduated within 4 years.

Time to Degree in Years: MDiv Number of Students	
3 to <4	1 (14%)
4 to <5	5 (71%)
5 to <6	0 (0%)
6 to <7	1 (14%)

<b>Time to Degree in Years: MCL Number of Students</b>	
<b>2 to &lt;3</b>	3 (60%)
<b>3 to &lt;4</b>	1 (20%)
<b>4 to &lt;5</b>	1 (20%)

The 12 master's students that graduated in academic 2013-2014 are in the following placements as of fall 2014:

<b>Full-time Pastor</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Denominational Leader</b>	1
<b>Academic Administration</b>	1
<b>Hospital Chaplaincy</b>	1
<b>Military Chaplaincy</b>	1
<b>Youth Detention Center</b>	1
<b>Government Liaison</b>	1
<b>Bi-Vocational</b>	1
<b>Doctoral Program</b>	1
<b>Not seeking employment</b>	1

### **Doctor of Ministry Program**

ABSW's Doctor of Ministry program is an advanced academic degree intended to prepare students for professional careers in pastoral ministries, teaching, writing, and scholarship, as well as for leadership opportunities with religious organizations, social service agencies, foundations, museums, libraries, publishing, and in educational institutions.

The normative time to degree for this program is 3 to 4 yrs. The table below shows the time to degree for the 3 doctoral students that graduated in the 2013-2014 academic year. One of the students graduated within 2 years, and two graduated within 4 years.

<b>Time to Degree in Years: DMin Number of Students</b>	
<b>2 to &lt;3</b>	<b>1 (33%)</b>
<b>3 to &lt;4</b>	<b>0 (0%)</b>
<b>4 to &lt;5</b>	<b>2 (66%)</b>

The 3 Doctor of Ministry students that graduated in academic 2013-2014 are in the following placements as of fall 2014:

<b>Non-profit Organization</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Denominational Leader</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Retired Pastor</b>	<b>1</b>