

Committee on Preparation for Ministry

Presbytery of Greater Atlanta

POLICY FOR TRANSFER OF ENROLLEE Adopted February 2, 2017

Introduction

- Purpose
 - G-2.0103 Call to Ordered Ministry
The call to ordered ministry in the Church is the act of the triune God. This call is evidenced by the movement of the Holy Spirit in the individual conscience, the approval of a community of God's people, and the concurring judgment of a council of the Church.
 - Establish criteria and process for transfer of covenant relationship
- Background: *Advisory Handbook on Preparation for Ministry*, by Tim Cargal:
“There may be times when it makes sense for a person who is taking part in the preparation for ministry process to move their congregational membership to a different congregation. Perhaps they no longer have any communal ties to the city where the church is located because a family member has accepted employment in a different region. Whatever the reason, an inquirer or candidate must remember that the presbytery has primary responsibility for the preparation for ministry. Especially when new congregation **membership will also mean a new presbytery of care there must be careful coordination between the congregations and presbyteries involved. Both the new session and the new presbytery need to agree to assume the responsibilities of care before congregational membership is changed.** Keep in mind that because each presbytery controls its own rolls, there is no requirement that a presbytery accept an inquirer or candidate on its rolls just because the person is currently under care of another presbytery.” (pp 33-34)

Assessment

- Applicant in Good Standing with Positive Recommendation
The Committee on Preparation for Ministry shall
 - Require a letter from a local session indicating a willingness to assume responsibility for care
 - Note: Applicant must not join a church until Presbytery of Greater Atlanta's CPM agrees to assume responsibilities of care.
 - Review recommendation from sending presbytery
 - Review enrollee-prepared materials
 - Review sending CPM documentation (annual consultations, etc)
 - Interview the applicant
 - Assess the applicant
 - Progress through milestones
 - According to our checklist
 - Academic record
 - Motivation

- Potential for success under our care
 - Determine whether to enroll and at what level
- Applicant Removed from Process
 - Applicant must become a member of PGA church and request endorsement of the session.
 - Upon session endorsement, the individual may apply to CPM for inquirer status.
 - A new Ministry Assessment is required.
 - CPM shall review assessment from originating presbytery.
 - CPM shall review applicant-prepared materials.
 - CPM shall review originating CPM documentation (annual consultations, etc).
 - CPM shall interview the applicant.
 - Assess the applicant:
 - Progress through milestones
 - Academic record
 - Motivation
 - Potential for success under our care
 - Determine whether to enroll and at what level
 - Determine any potential variations in process
 - Set individualized goals
- Applicant in Good Standing, originating presbytery unwilling to recommend
 - CPM shall ascertain why recommendation has been withheld
 - Review enrollee-prepared materials
 - Review originating CPM documentation (annual consultations, etc.)
 - Review other supporting documentation (letters of recommendation, etc.)
 - CPM shall interview the applicant.
 - Assess the applicant
 - Progress through milestones
 - Academic record
 - Motivation
 - Potential for success under our care
 - Determine whether to enroll and at what level
 - Determine any potential variations in process
 - Set individualized goals

Process for transfer

- New session agrees to assume the responsibilities of care
 - Documentation
 - Letter from clerk
 - Forms appropriate to status (inquirer or candidate)
- CPM agrees to enroll applicant
- Enrollee transfers membership to new church, session assumes responsibility of care
- CPM assumes responsibility of care