

Transfer

Guidelines for Ordained Ministers Applying for Membership
IN THE PRESBYTERY OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

Prerequisites:

1. Ordained by the PCA or other church body whose ordination is recognized by the PCA. (If you have a question about this, please contact the chairman of the Credentials Committee of the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley.) Ordination must be current.
2. If you are a non-PCA member, you must meet the educational requirements of the PCA Book of Church Order (BCO) chapter 21-4 (first paragraph) and will be required to answer the questions in BCO 21-5.

Forms and papers required of PCA ministers:

1. Letter from Stated Clerk of your current presbytery attesting that you are a member in good standing with that presbytery.
2. A copy of the call from a local church or other approved work in the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley. (This may be submitted by the calling church or agency.)
3. A completed "Examination on Views" (MUST be typewritten).
4. A completed "Ministerial Application" (MUST be typewritten).

Forms and papers required of non-PCA ministers:

1. A certified copy of your ordination certificate.
2. Transcript from the college from which you received your bachelors degree.
3. Transcript from the seminary where you studied for the ministry.
4. A letter from the appropriate official of your denomination that you are a currently ordained minister in good standing in that denomination.
5. A copy of the call from a local church or other approved work in the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley. (This may be submitted by the calling church or agency.)
6. A completed "Examinations on Views" (MUST be typewritten) and, ordinarily, an exam in all other areas of knowledge required by BCO 13-6.
7. A completed "Ministerial Application" (MUST be typewritten).

Procedure:

1. Submit all required papers to the Credentials Committee, including installation commission and service information.
2. Ordinarily, except in unusual cases as determined by the committee, in addition to the written "Examination on Views" which you will have submitted, you will be examined by both the Credentials Committee and the full presbytery in the areas required by BCO 13-6. Contact the chairman of the Credentials Committee for exact dates, times and locations of committee meetings and examinations.

ALL APPLICATIONS AND SUPPORTING MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED ELECTRONICALLY. Send all applications, reports and papers to:

Credentials Committee

David Strain, chairman

c/o Tricia Baugus, committee assistant

(601)940-2966

pmvcredentials@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF DEADLINES

Year	Presbytery Meeting	Credentials Committee Meeting	Deadline for Submissions to Credentials Committee
2021	February 2 May 4 August 3 November 2	December 8, 2020 March 9 June 8 September 14	November 20, 2020 February 19 May 21 August 27
2022	February 1 May 3 August 2 November 1	December 14, 2021 March 8 June 14 September 13	November 26, 2021 February 18 May 27 August 26
2023	February 7 May 2 August 1 November 7	December 13, 2022 March 14 June 13 September 12	November 25, 2022 February 24 May 26 August 25

Views on Theological Issues

The following list of controversial issues and theological topics will be covered in examinations of all candidates. This list is provided for preparation on the part of each candidate.

THIS IS NOT THE ACTUAL EXAM.

Please request the exam from the committee: pmvcredentials@gmail.com

1. Length of days of creation (Genesis 1)
2. The role of women in church office
3. The two-office or three-office view of church government
4. The regulative principle to worship (drama, dance, music styles, etc.)
5. The Sabbath view held by each candidate
6. The sign, or “miraculous,” or apostolic gifts
 - Tongues
 - Interpretation
 - Miracles
 - Healing
7. The continuing role of prophecy in the church today
8. The covenant of works
9. Antinomianism: the Law as it applies today
10. Views of psalmody in worship
11. Frequency of communion
12. Paedo-communion
13. Divorce and remarriage
14. The validity of Roman Catholic baptism
15. The validity of re-baptism
16. The Lordship controversy and the carnal Christian
17. Fencing the Lord’s Table
18. The necessity and method of church discipline
19. Subscription to subordinate standards
20. Christian liberty: the use of alcohol and tobacco

21. Civil disobedience
22. Christian education: public school, private school, home school, Christian school
23. Your definition of Presbyterianism
24. Theonomy
25. The Impeccability of Christ

The Proper Form of a Call
THE PRESBYTERY OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

Call to a Particular Ministry

The [Church name] Presbyterian Church, [town, state] being on sufficient grounds well satisfied with the qualifications of you, TE [Pastor's name], and having good hopes from our knowledge of your labors that your ministrations in the Gospel will be profitable to our spiritual interests, does earnestly call you to undertake the pastoral office in said congregation, promising you, in the discharge of your duty, all proper support, encouragement and obedience in the Lord.

That you may be free from worldly cares and avocations, we hereby promise and oblige ourselves to pay you the sum of \$ _____ a year in regular monthly payments, with the following benefits: [specific amounts]

- Housing Allowance:
- Health Insurance:
- Retirement:
- Ministry Expense:
- Travel Allowance:
- Vacation Time: Four weeks per year,

during the time of your being and continuing the regular pastor of this church.

This second day of August, AD 2011 [date of the congregational meeting].

Signed:

Attest: I, having moderated the congregational meeting which extended a call to [name] for his ministerial services, do certify that the call has been made in all respects according to the rules laid down in the *Book of Church Order*, and that the persons who signed the foregoing call were authorized to do so by vote of the congregation.

[Name]

Moderator

THE CALL MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE CLERK OF PRESBYTERY AND TO THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE.