

Guide for One Who Has Discerned a Call to Ministry in the PC(USA)
A Resource of National Capital Presbytery's Commission on Preparation for Ministry (CPM)



Be a congregational member (active at least 6 mos) and receive the endorsement of your home session (be assigned a liaison) to become an inquirer .	Form 1A, B & C (you) Form 1D (session) Send transcripts (you)
Undergo a psychological assessment, which will cost approx. \$1500. The cost is divided among the presbytery (40%), session (30%), and applicant (30%).	
You will be assigned a Liaison Group (LG) and a “shepherd” who will help schedule you for your first interview with the CPM. Pending a recommendation from your Liaison Group, you will be enrolled with the presbytery as an Inquirer. This phase usually lasts 1 year (and can take longer). You will need to meet annually with your Liaison group as long as you are an Inquirer or Candidate.	Form 2A (you/LG) Form 2B (you/LG/session) Authorization for Disclosure of Protocol Health Information (you) Form 3 (you) Form 4 (LG/you)
Take the Bible Content Ordination Exam (you don't need permission)	
Meet with your Church Session to receive their recommendation that you be enrolled as a candidate . Schedule a time with your Liaison Group to be interviewed. Pending a recommendation of your Liaison Group, you will be enrolled with Presbytery as a candidate (you must be a candidate for 1 full year).	Form 5A (you) Form 5B (session) Form 5C (LG and you) Form 5D (you, LG & session) Outcomes of Inquiry (see CPM Manual M-3.0205, page 28)
Take the other 4 Ordination Exams, which does require permission from your Liaison Group. Take a basic unit of CPE. Graduate from Seminary. If candidacy takes longer than a year, participate in another annual consultation.	Possible Form 3 (you) Possible Form 4 (LG/you)
Prepare for Final Assessment, by providing your Liaison Group with date of seminary graduation, date of ordination exam completion(s), written description of supervised ministry, 1 page statement of faith, copy of your exegesis exam with comments, sermon, and one paragraph answers to each of the ordination questions.	Outcomes of Candidacy for Final Assessment (see CPM Manual M-4.0102, page 33)
Pending the completion of your Final Assessment, you will be certified ready to receive a call.	

Best Contacts:

Your Pastor, Clerk of Session, Session Liaison

Your Liaison Group Shepherd

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