

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 bachelor=s 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 “Examination on Views” (MUST be typewritten).
7. A completed “Ministerial Application” (MUST be typewritten).

Procedure:

1. Submit all required papers to the Credentials Committee.
2. 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
Guy Waters, Chairman
gwaters@rts.edu
(601) 321-0725
525 Seneca Avenue
Jackson, MS 39216

Megan Hill
mvpcredentials@gmail.com
(601) 925-4298
224 Lake Forest Lane
Clinton, MS 39056

SCHEDULE OF DEADLINES
(For Examinations)

Year	Presbytery Meeting	Credentials Committee Meeting	Deadline for Submission to Credentials Committee
2010	February 2 May 4 August 3 November 2	December 8, 2009 March 9 June 15 September 14	November 20, 2009 February 19 May 28 August 27
2011	February 1 May 3 August 2 November 1	December 14, 2010 March 8 June 14 September 13	November 26, 2010 February 11 May 27 August 26
2012	February 7 May 1 August 7 November 6	December 13, 2011 March 13 June 12 September 11	November 25, 2011 February 24 May 25 August 31

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.

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 _____ Church being on sufficient grounds well satisfied of the ministerial qualifications of you, _____, and having good hopes from our knowledge of your labors that your ministrations in the Gospel will be profitable to our spiritual interests, do 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 (or quarterly) payments, and other benefits, such as, manse, retirement, insurance, vacations, moving expenses, etc. (dollar amounts should be specified), during the time of your being and continuing the regular pastor of this church.

In testimony whereof we have respectively subscribed our names this day of _____, A.D. _____.

Attest: I, having moderated the congregational meeting which extended a call to _____ 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.

Moderator of the Meeting

PRESBYTERY OF MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

REPORT OF COMMISSION to ordain/and install Mr./Rev. _____ as
Pastor of _____ and _____ Church(es):

The Commission met on _____, _____, at _____ p.m. at the church (or at _____).
Commission members present were:

- Rev. Messrs. _____ (Chairman); _____;
- Ruling Elders: _____;
- Others Present: _____.

The Commission meeting was opened with prayer by _____. _____ was elected Secretary of the Commission. The Commission recessed with prayer by _____ for the ordination/installation service.

The Chairman presided in the sanctuary service, which was opened with singing, prayer, and Scripture reading. (If desired, record who read the Scripture passages: _____ and who had the prayer: _____.)
The sermon was preached by the Rev. _____ on the topic/text: _____.

The Chairman stated briefly the previous proceedings of the Presbytery, and pointed out the nature and importance of the ordination/installation ordinance.

The Chairman propounded the constitutional questions to the Candidate/Minister (*BCO, 22-5*) and these were answered in the affirmative. The Chairman then propounded the constitutional questions to the congregation, and these were answered in the affirmative by the members holding up their right hands. The candidate then kneeled and was set apart to the holy office of the Gospel Ministry with prayer and the laying on of hands. He then rose and members of the Commission gave him the right hand of fellowship. The Chairman then declared that Mr./Rev. _____ had been regularly elected, (ordained,) and installed as Pastor of the _____ Church.

(If additional churches): The Chairman then propounded the constitutional questions to the Candidate/Minister and to the _____ congregation, and these were answered in the affirmative in the prescribed manner. He then declared that Mr./Rev. _____ had been regularly elected and installed as Pastor of that Church.

A Charge to the Pastor was delivered by Mr./Rev. _____.

A Charge to the Congregation(s) was delivered by Mr./Rev. _____.

Following prayer and singing, the new Pastor pronounced the benediction.

The Commission reconvened, approved its minutes, and was adjourned with prayer by _____.

Secretary

The Secretary will please send this report promptly to the Presbytery's Stated Clerk.

MINISTERIAL APPLICATION
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PRESBYTERY

Name: _____ Date: _____
Phone: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Birthdate: _____ Age: _____ Spouse Name: _____

Have either of you been divorced? Y: _____ N: _____

If yes, please give full details on a separate sheet of paper.

Children (names/ages):

Ordained by: _____ Date: _____

Current Ministry: _____

Current Presbytery: _____

Educational Record (List institution, dates, degree):

List organizations you have belonged to and give dates:

List all ministries (and positions held) you have had since ordination:

What experiences have you had in presbytery committees and offices?

In what areas would you like to serve presbytery?