

Policy #6 – Interviewing PCUSA Ministers Seeking Membership in the Presbytery
Committee on Ministry – Presbytery of Tampa Bay

The Committee on Ministry (COM) is authorized by the Presbytery of Tampa Bay to find in order calls issued by churches, to approve and present calls for service of ministers, to approve the examination of ministers transferring from other presbyteries, to dissolve the pastoral relationship in cases where the congregation and pastor concur, and to dismiss ministers to other presbyteries, with the provision that all such actions be reported to the next stated meeting of the presbytery, in accordance with G-11.0502h.

The COM shall examine all persons seeking membership in the presbytery as to their suitability for a pastoral call to a church or for other work within the presbytery. For ministers seeking a call within the presbytery, the COM ordinarily meets with the PNC final candidate at the time of the second visit of the minister to Tampa Bay (see Policy #2).

This interview usually takes place at a regular monthly meeting of the COM (first Thursday of each month). If circumstances require it, the COM area committee will conduct the interview at a special meeting. A quorum for all interviews is five members of the COM. If the candidate is not yet ordained, a meeting with the presbytery Committee on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) will need to be arranged.

At least one week prior to meeting with the COM, the following documents must be emailed as an attachment in Word format or WordPerfect format to the presbytery presbyter at gtyer@pbty.com: the minister's PIF, a one-page statement of faith, a one-page biographical statement, Form F-1 (unsigned), and Form F-4, the Confidential Employment Reference Release.

In addition to fulfilling the requirements of G-11.0402, the interview team shall examine the following: the applicant's suitability for the position, the "match" between applicant and position, the talents and interest of the applicant, the needs of the church or employing body, the applicant's knowledge of the position. Also, interviews for all applicants seeking membership in the presbytery will include all the criteria in G-11.0403, G-11.0408, G-11,0409, G-11.0410 and G-4.0411.

Ministers from other denominations (see Policy #7) called to validated ministries listed in G.11.0409 or G-11.0410 shall fulfill all the above and also the special provisions of G-11.0404.

Ministers seeking reinstatement should first see G-11.0402 and G-11.0403.