

**Policy #25 – Immigrant and Emerging Ministries**  
**Committee on Ministry – Presbytery of Tampa Bay**

It is the expectation of the Committee on Ministry (COM) of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay that all Presbyterian Church (USA) New Immigrant, Emerging, Missionary, or Overseas Language ministries or ministry positions, no matter how or by whom funded, will be established within the bounds of the presbytery, with the prior approval of both the position and the person filling such a position by the COM.

It is the expectation of the COM that all ministry positions or ministers selected to fill such positions, and funded by the Presbytery of Tampa Bay or any of its mission committees, endorsed organizations, or corporations related by covenants, and which is created to serve overseas churches or entities thereof, shall be established with the prior approval of the COM.

It is the expectation of the COM that when persons are selected by, or approved by any mission committees, endorsed organizations, or corporations related by covenants of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay, or by other operating entities of the Presbyterian Church (USA) for New Immigrant, Emerging, Missionary, or Overseas Language ministries, and who have not been previously ordained and declared fit for ministry by a presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (USA), then their qualifications for ministry shall first be investigated and approved by the Committee on Preparation for Ministry of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay.

It is the expectation of the COM that no New Immigrant, Emerging, Missionary, or Overseas Language ministry will be approved unless there are clear guarantees as to the sources and amounts of funding for such a ministry, which must meet present COM policies and guidelines as to salary minimums, conditions of employment, housing, and retirement/pension funding. In no case shall the Presbytery of Tampa Bay be accountable for any part of the funding of these ministries without having the obligations thereof previously approved as part of the regular, annual budget of the presbytery and its mission committees, endorsed organizations, or corporations related by covenants.