

TRANSFER OF MINISTERS FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS
(Book of Order, G-2.0505a)

1. The Minister shall apply for membership in the Presbytery of the James (POJ). (First contact through the Administrative Assistant or the General Presbyter in POJ office)
2. The Minister will be contacted by Examinations Sub-committee and be requested to furnish:
 - A. Credentials of good standing from the denominational body of jurisdiction. Credentials are to be sent to POJ (G-2.0505a)
 - B. Transcripts which reflect the following:
 1. Baccalaureate degree or equivalent from accredited college or university.
 2. Theological degree from institution acceptable to the presbytery – three year master of divinity degree program.
 3. Ministers for immigrant fellowship: provide evidence of good standing in a denomination (cf: G-2.0505a (1)).
 4. Ministers will be required to answer satisfactorily the questions on the Standard ordination exams approved the General Assembly (G-2.0607a-d).
 - a. Open Book Bible Exegesis
 - b. Bible Content
 - c. Theological Competence
 - d. Worship and Sacraments
 - e. Presbyterian Church Polity
 - C. To waive any of the foregoing requirements G-2.0505(2)
 1. Educational requirements (2-B above) require 3/4 majority vote by POJ
 2. Ordination Exams requirements
 - a) Not waived until two unsuccessful attempts have been made to pass
 - b) Require 3/4 majority vote of POJ
 3. Recommendation for waiving of any requirements should come to the Committee on Ministry (COM) through the Examinations Sub-Committee.
 - D. Ministers who have been ordained for five or more years in a Reformed denomination may be granted an exemption from some or all Ordination Exams by 2/3 vote of the presbytery. [G-2.0505a(1)]
3. Examinations Sub-committee shall confer with the Stated Clerk or the General Assembly Stated Clerk to determine whether the Minister is transferring from a denomination in correspondence with PC(USA). Request for exemption will come to the COM through the Examinations Sub-committee.
4. Extension of call from a Specialized Ministry (G-2.0503a; 3.0306)
 - a. From church -- Call must be found in order by Pastoral Relations Sub-committee
 - b. Specialized Ministry -- Ministry must be validated first by Administrative Sub-committee.
5. Upon successful completion of 1-4 above, a Minister and, if appropriate, the PNC or calling

agency liaison will schedule a time to meet with the Examinations Sub-committee.

- a. Letter requesting information goes out to the Minister. The following information requested must be received at least 10 days before the Examinations Sub-committee meets.
 1. Job Description
 2. Terms of call or complete salary package
 3. PIF or corresponding document including
 - a) at least 3 references
 - b) Current ecclesiastical status (ordination date/current standing)
 4. Statement of Faith
 - b. Articulate his or her Christian faith and demonstrate an acceptable knowledge of theology, polity, and sacraments
 - c. Answer the ordination questions in the affirmative before the POJ (W-4.4003)
6. Upon recommendation of the Examinations Sub-Committee, the COM will vote at its next scheduled meeting upon the Examinations Sub-Committee's recommendation.
 7. With an affirmative vote of COM and the congregation or calling agency, the Minister will ordinarily be introduced at the next Presbytery Meeting.