

Application for Candidacy

Candidates Committee, Catawba Valley Presbytery, PCA

Candidates are to fill out this form and email it to the Chairman of the Candidates Committee at least three weeks prior to the meeting of the committee at which you seek to be considered as a candidate for gospel ministry. The name and contact information of the chairman of the committee along with the committee meeting schedule can be found on the presbytery website www.cvppca.org

To apply for Candidacy:

- 1) Contact the Chairman of the Candidates Committee, whose name and contact information are available on the CVP website, www.cvppca.org.
- 2) Read page two of this Application, for the BCO guidelines regarding Candidacy.
- 3) Obtain from the web site, have completed and sent to the committee, the following forms:
 - A) Session's Recommendation Form
 - B) Reference Form
- 4) Complete page three of this Application, make a copy for yourself, and send a copy by e-mail attachment to the Chairman of the Candidates Committee.
- 5) Meet with the Candidates Committee to review your application.
- 6) Meet with the Presbytery to be share your Christian testimony and sense of call to the ministry.

For more information, go to the web site, and the Candidates Committee link. Print for yourself a copy of "General Information" and "Requirements for Candidates, Interns, Licentiates and Ordinands." This will give you an overview of the entire process and the requirements for each stage of Candidacy.

Candidacy

Book of Church Order

18-1. A candidate for the ministry is a member of the church in full communion who, believing himself to be called to preach the Gospel, submits himself to the care and guidance of the Presbytery in his course of study and of practical training to prepare himself for this office.

18-2. Every applicant for the ministry must put himself under the care of Presbytery, which should ordinarily be the Presbytery that has jurisdiction of the church of which he is a member. The endorsement of his Session must be given to the Presbytery, consisting of testimonials regarding his Christian character and promise of usefulness in the ministry. The endorsement should also describe the activities of ministry the applicant has participated in with brief evaluation.

Every applicant for care shall be a member of the congregation whose session provides an endorsement for at least six months before filing his application, except in those cases deemed extraordinary by the Presbytery.

Every applicant must file his application with the clerk of the Presbytery at least one month before the meeting of the Presbytery. An applicant for care may not be received under care and examined for ordination at the same meeting of the Presbytery, since he must serve a period of at least one year of internship prior to ordination (see *BCO* 19-7 and 21-4). An applicant for internship is obliged to be under care and may be licensed to preach the Gospel; further, one who is not already under care may be taken under care, be licensed to preach the Gospel, and become an intern at the same meeting of Presbytery.

18-3. The applicant shall appear before the Presbytery in person, and shall be examined by the Presbytery on experiential religion and on his motives for seeking the ministry.

18-4. The candidate continues to be a private member of the church and subject to the jurisdiction of the Session, but as respects his preparatory training for the ministry he is under the oversight of the Presbytery. It shall be the duty of the Presbytery to show a kindly and sympathetic interest in him, and to give him counsel and guidance in regard to his studies, his practical training, and the institutions of learning he should attend. In no case may a candidate omit from his course of study any of the subjects prescribed in the Form of Government as tests for ordination without obtaining the consent of Presbytery (see *BCO* 21-4); and where such consent is given the Presbytery shall record the fact and the reasons therefore.

18-5. For the development of his Christian character, for the service he can render, and for his more effective training, the candidate, when entering on his theological studies, should be authorized and encouraged by the Presbytery to conduct public worship, to expound the Scriptures to the people, and to engage in other forms of Christian work. These forms of service should be rendered under the direction of Presbytery, and also with the sanction and under the guidance of the candidate's instructors during the time of his being under their instruction. A candidate should not undertake to serve a church which is without a pastor as regular supply unless he has been licensed and approved for that supply by the Presbytery having jurisdiction of the church (see *BCO* 19-1).

18-6. The Presbytery shall require every candidate for the ministry under its care to make a report to it at least once a year; and it shall secure from his instructors an annual report upon his deportment, diligence, and progress in study.

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Type your responses, following the outline below, expanding this form as needed, to give yourself enough space.

- 1) Date (Month, Day Year)
- 2) Name (First, Middle, Last)
- 3) Address (Complete)
- 4) Telephone Number(s)
- 5) E-Mail Address(s)
- 6) Date Of Birth (Month, Day Year)
- 7) Place Of Birth (City, State, Country)
- 8) Baptism (Date, Place)
- 9) Church where you are now a member (Denomination, Name, City, State)
- 10) Marital Status (married, divorced, separated, widowed)
- 11) Wife's name
- 12) Date of Marriage
- 13) Name(s) and age(s) of Children
- 14) Current Employment: Tell us where you work and briefly describe the type of work you do.
- 15) Employment History: Briefly describe the types of work you have done in the past.
- 16) Current Educational Status: Tell us where you are enrolled, and briefly describe your present course of study.
- 17) Formal Education History (include any degrees and dates)
- 18) Describe your relationship to the Lord Jesus Christ, including when you became a Christian.
- 19) Describe your sense of call to the ministry.
- 20) What experiences and individuals have influenced you to make an application for candidacy?
- 21) In what ways have you served in ministry so far?
- 22) In what non-church activities and organizations have you been involved?
- 23) What are the attitudes of your parents, if living, and wife, if married, toward your application for candidacy?
- 24) Describe your personal prayer life.
- 25) Describe your personal study life.
- 26) Have you ever applied to be received under care of any other Presbytery in the PCA, or by any other Denomination? (If yes, include details, and contact names)
- 27) Is there anything else you would like to share with the Candidates Committee?