

PROCEDURES RELATING TO RE-ASSESSMENT OF THOSE APPLYING TO TRANSFER
BETWEEN
STIPENDIARY AND NON-STIPENDIARY SERVICE

The General Assembly in 1990 recognised that there will be some movement either way between stipendiary and non-stipendiary service, and agreed procedures accordingly.

A revision of these procedures is offered below for the sake of clarification and in the light of experience. It should be noted that in 1990 Assembly agreed that it is 'advisable for ministry according to the initial training to be exercised for a reasonable period first'. However the Assessment Board has recognised that changing circumstances for individuals already in training for ministry may prompt a request to transfer from non-stipendiary to stipendiary service, and therefore considers such students eligible for reassessment.

1. Those who seek to transfer must contact the Moderator of Synod to discuss the possibility of applying for transfer between the forms of ministerial service.
2. The Moderator will inform the Synod Candidating officer of the application who will gather the following documentation;
 - i) A personal statement from the candidate giving;
 - their reasons for applying to transfer,
 - an account of their development through training and ministry since they were accepted for training in the first place,
 - their understanding of the difference the transfer will make to the ministry they feel called to offer to the Church.
 - ii) A Commendation from the Synod following a meeting between the applicant and a group representing the Synod to consider the possibilities of transferring.
 - iii) A report from the Director/Principal of the training programme on which they are enrolled, or on which they trained and, in the case of non-stipendiary students/ministers the Synod's Training Officer.
 - iv) A commendation from the Moderator of Synod.
3. In the case of a request for from those already in post the Synod Candidating officer shall also call for:
 - ii) A report from the local church or post where the ministry is exercised;
 - ii) A report from a ministerial colleague.
4. When these reports are to hand and providing the Synod has commended the candidate, they shall be forwarded to the Secretary for Ministries, acting as Secretary of the National Assessment Board, who shall arrange for the candidate to attend an Assessment Conference for interviews with the Assessment and Education and Learning Boards.
5. The National Assessment Board shall interview the minister/student in order to reach a decision regarding the request to transfer from one form of ministerial service to another.
6. The Education and Learning Board shall interview the minister/student in order to reach a decision regarding any additional training or different training pathway required.

- 7 The minister/student and Synod will be informed of the decisions.
- 8 No concurrence can be given to a call the starting date of which may be prior to the completion date of any the required further training.

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