

## PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION: SHORT TERM APPOINTMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to guide decision-making by the Pastoral Relations Commission when considering a request for an appointment.

Date approved: January 29, 2019	Review date by Pastoral Relations Commission: 2020
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In the new guide for pastoral relations, *Pastoral Relations: Community of Faith*, a clear distinction is made between short-term appointment and appointments (Page 19). Short term appointments are requested when the community of faith requires ministry support while they work on their profile and search. Appointments, on the other hand, are longer-term pastoral relationship as a result of a search. This policy will help the Pastoral Relations Commission differentiate between the two types of appointments and respond appropriately.

- I. The Pastoral Relations Commission will consider a request for the following appointments:
  - i. Designated Lay Minister: up to three year appointment.
  - ii. Interim Minister: up to three year appointment
  - iii. Admittand: up to three year appointment (needed for immigration)
  - iv. Retired Supply: up to three years if filling a vacancy
  - v. Designated Lay Ministers-Applicant: DLM-A are students who are required to be in an appointment (at least half time) in order to complete their educational program. The educational program is for at least three years. A multi-year appointment could be requested for a DLM-A, who has been in an appointment for at least a year (up to two years).
  - vi. Summer Distance Learning Student Supply: The Atlantic School of Theology currently offers a distance learning MDiv that requires a student to be in a student/intern supply appointment for five years. A multi-year appointment (up to two years) can be requested for an Intern Supply minister who is part of the Summer Distance Learning and has been in an appointment for at least a year.
  - vii. The Candidacy Pathway program requires a candidate to fulfill a supervised ministry education (SME) for two years. An appointment may be requested for up to two years.
- II. All other appointments will be considered short-term appointments and be approved for up to 12 months.