

## 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.

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In the guide for pastoral relations, *Pastoral Relations: Policy for a Community of Faith (April 2020)*, a short-term appointment is described as a “supply minister appointed to offer leadership until your community of faith’s profile is written and the associated position is filled. (Page 13). Appointments (as opposed to a short-term appointment), on the other hand, are longer-term pastoral relationships 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 as a result of a search through Church Hub by an appointed Search Team or Transition Team:
  - 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 a result of a search
  - 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 a Candidate 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. The Pastoral Relations Commission will consider a request for a short term appointment as a result of a search through Church Hub for a minister to offer leadership until a community of faith’s profile and associated position is filled, for up to 12 months.
- III. All other appointments covering a time limited leave such as parental leave, sabbatical, or medical leave, or a true “appointment” where the regional council is taking sole responsibility for appointing a minister under particular circumstances will be considered short-term appointments, be approved for up to 12 months and does not require a search through Church Hub.