



## Policy Regarding the Election of Commissioners & Young Adult Advisory Delegates to the General Assembly of the PC(USA)

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### Process for the Election of GA Commissioners

The method for the election of ruling and teaching elder commissioners to the General Assembly shall be as follows:

1. A ruling elder member of a church in the Presbytery of Donegal is eligible for election as a commissioner to the General Assembly after completion of one full year of service in office as a ruling elder in his/her congregation. A teaching elder member of the Presbytery of Donegal is eligible for election as a commissioner to the General Assembly after completion of one full year of membership in the Presbytery.
2. Ruling and teaching elders may be elected as commissioners to two consecutive assemblies. When a commissioner has served at two consecutive assemblies, they shall be ineligible for election as a commissioner to the next General Assembly.
3. Ruling and teaching elders who wish to be considered for election as commissioners shall submit to the Discerning Gifts & Passions Committee an application that shall include a biography/faith journey, a picture, and a statement on why the person believes God is calling her/him to service as a GA Commissioner. Applications will be accepted beginning on August 1<sup>st</sup> of the year preceding the meeting of the General Assembly. The due date for this application shall be October 1<sup>st</sup> of that year. The election of commissioners shall be at a meeting of the Presbytery that shall be held no earlier than November 1<sup>st</sup> and no later than December 10<sup>th</sup> of that year. (The Standing Rules of the General Assembly now instruct that Commissioners and Young Adult Advisory Delegates will be reported to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly at least 180 days prior to the Assembly.)
4. No more than one ruling elder and one teaching elder shall be elected from any particular congregation. If two ruling elders or two teaching elders should be elected from the same church, the one with the higher vote count shall be the one eligible for election. A ruling elder and a teaching elder from the same congregation are eligible to serve at the same General Assembly.
5. Commissioners may be elected by a plurality vote. Additional ballots may be needed in case of a tie.

6. A ruling elder and a teaching elder shall be designated as alternate commissioners. The alternates shall be those with the next highest vote totals after those who have been elected.
7. The function of the Discerning Gifts and Passions Committee shall be to determine the eligibility of adult applicants and to send the slate to the Leader Team for review prior to submission to the Presbytery.

## Process for the Election of Young Adult Advisory Delegates

The method for the election of Young Adult Advisory Delegates to the General Assembly shall be as follows:

1. A young adult member of a church in the Presbytery of Donegal is eligible for election as a Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD) to the General Assembly after completion of one full year of membership in his/her congregation. The YAAD must be no younger than age 18 and no older than age 23 on the day the Assembly commences. (Note: the GA Standing rules say age 17. The policy in Donegal is that the YAAD should be age 18.)
2. When a YAAD has served a General Assembly, they shall be ineligible for election as a YAAD to the next General Assembly.
3. Young adults who wish to be considered for election as delegates shall submit to the Discerning Gifts & Passions Committee an application that shall include a biography/faith journey, a picture, and a statement on why the person believes God is calling her/him to service as a YAAD. Applications will be accepted beginning on August 1<sup>st</sup> of the year preceding the meeting of the General Assembly. The due date for this application shall be the October 1<sup>st</sup> of that year. The election of YAADs shall be held at a meeting of the Presbytery that shall be held no earlier than November 1<sup>st</sup> and no later than December 10<sup>th</sup> of that year. (The Standing Rules of the General Assembly now instruct that Commissioners and Young Adult Advisory Delegates will be reported to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly at least 180 days prior to the Assembly.)
4. An alternate YAAD shall be designated. The alternate shall be the one with the next highest vote total after the one who has been elected.
5. The function of the Discerning Gifts and Passions Committee shall be to determine the eligibility of young adult applicants and to send the slate to the Leader Team for review prior to submission to the Presbytery.