

MINISTER MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

I. Policy Statement

A member-at-large is a teaching elder who has previously been admitted to the presbytery as an active member, and who now without intentional abandonment of the exercise of ministry, is no longer engaged in a ministry that complies with all the criteria for a validated ministry.

II. Rationale

The designation of *member-at-large* entitles that individual to maintain active membership status and to take part in the meetings of the presbytery, to speak, vote, and hold office.

III. Responsibilities

A. Committee on Ministry (COM) Responsibilities

1. COM shall review the status of member-at-large annually using the guidelines in the Book of Order and this policy. COM shall determine the dates and times for assessing when an annual review is called for.
 - a. COM recognizes there are a variety of circumstances that may prohibit a Minister of the Word from participating in a validated ministry, including family responsibilities or other individual circumstances.
 - b. Additional parameters may be required, and may include but are not limited to requirements for circulating a PIF, participation in counseling or other parameters as deemed appropriate by COM and the Presbytery.
 - c. Regular attendance at meetings of Presbytery
 - d. Participation in the work and word of a church congregation designated in the "Formula of Agreement".
 - e. Participation, when invited, as an active member of a Presbytery standing committee, ad-hoc committee, task force or specific Presbytery function as may be defined by the Presbytery.
 - f. Respond positively, where appropriate and when invited by the pastor, to serving as a Parish Associate with a particular church of the Presbytery of San Jose.
2. The COM shall report recommended changes in membership status to the Presbytery of San Jose for consideration and action.
3. COM shall provide appropriate counseling to any *member-at-large* who is unable to take a validated ministry for a three year period.
4. COM shall report to Presbytery the recommended actions for any individual completing their fourth year as a *member-at-large*.

B. Minister Members at Large Responsibilities

Members at large are expected to:

1. Regularly attend meetings of Presbytery.
2. Participate in the life of a PCUSA congregation.
3. Participate, when invited, as an active member of a Presbytery standing committee, ad-hoc committee, task force or specific Presbytery function as may be defined by the Presbytery.
4. Respond positively when invited by the pastor to serve as a Parish Associate with a particular church of the Presbytery of San José.