

Pulpit Supply Policy

A. The Presbytery of Hudson River maintains a list of clergy and elders to provide pulpit supply or other ministerial services to the churches of the presbytery and have been approved by the Committee on Ministry.

B. Eligibility to serve as pulpit supply

1. Members of the Hudson River Presbytery, upon request to and approval by Committee on Ministry.
2. Elders of churches within the Presbytery approved by the Committee on Ministry.
3. Candidates certified ready for ordination in this presbytery, with approval of Committee on Preparation for Ministry and Committee on Ministry.
4. Those eligible for CRE commissioning and CRE candidates in this presbytery, with approval of the CRE Committee and the Committee on Ministry.
5. A background check within the last 10 years will be required of all who seek to be included on the pulpit supply list.

C. Special Cases

1. A Teaching Elder ordained in the PCUSA from outside the bounds of the Hudson River Presbytery may ask to be added to the list by submitting a statement of faith to the Committee on Ministry and agreeing to an EP to EP check, a clergy background check, a clearance interview and review of policies that are required of clergy within the presbytery.
2. Ordinarily elders from outside of the Presbytery are not eligible to serve in this capacity.
3. Committee on Ministry approval is required when a person, who is not on the pulpit supply list or a member of the congregation, is regularly providing pulpit supply and/or other ministerial responsibilities for more than three times a year.

D. Minimum compensation guidelines

Note: Presbytery approved (as of 1 January 2023) recommended minimums for honoraria to pulpit supplies: \$200 for a single service; \$250 for 2 services (same day), plus mileage reimbursed at current IRS rate and \$100 for moderating a meeting (invitation of current pastor or COM approval needed), plus mileage reimbursed at current IRS rate. As churches feel it appropriate higher rates can be paid. Current IRS mileage (70 cents as of 1/1/25).

Additional fees for other services are negotiable.

Approved by Presbytery on 26 January 2010 and 12 May 2015; edited by COM
January, 2025