
The Q's & A's about Per Capita

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National Capital Presbytery

Per Capita 2020

Per Capita Apportionment:

The Per Capita reminds us of the connection with the National Capital Presbytery, the Synod of the Mid Atlantic and the General Assembly. The Per Capita advises us of the cost of operation to do the ministry and mission of Jesus Christ in the world. Per Capita payment keeps all the governing bodies of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in operation for a full year.



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Questions and Answers

Question: What is Per Capita?

Answer: Per Capita is the designated dollar amount that is asked of each member of the Presbytery Church (USA) as a yearly voluntary contribution. Per Capita is collected by the Presbyteries.

Question: What is the basis for your church's Per Capita contribution?

Answer: Per Capita is based on your church's membership. The membership is reported on your church's annual statistical report, which is filed yearly.

Question: Why is our membership different than the current year members?

Answer: Per Capita membership numbers are two years behind. Example: 2018 membership is filed in 2019, therefore the last reported membership is 2018.

Question: How is Per Capita used?

Answer: Per Capita is used to pay for the essential administrative operation of the three governing bodies of the Presbytery Church (USA): Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly.

Question: Who determines and approves how much money is needed to run the governing bodies?

Answer: The Councils of the three governing bodies determine the amount of money needed to run their own regional office for the given year, and these amounts are authorized by each governing body's constituency.

Question: How is the Per Capita figure calculated?

Answer: The total budgeted amount for each of the three governing bodies is divided by the number of members in that governing body's domain. Those sums are then added together.

Question: What is the total Per Capita dollar amount needed for each church member of National Capital Presbytery to support the three governing bodies in 2020?

Answer: The 2020 Per Capita dollar amount is \$42.64 per member.

Question: How is Per Capita divided between the governing bodies?

Answer: \$8.95 by the General Assembly; \$1.15 by the Synod of the Mid Atlantic, and \$32.54 by National Capital Presbytery. Each body will receive that amount per member from the Per Capita paid by each congregation.

Question: What Does National Capital Presbytery's share of Per Capita Pay for?

Answer: Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Committee on Ministry, Presbytery Resources, Presbytery Operation and staff salaries expenses (see Operating Budget for more detail).

Question: What does the Synod of the Mid Atlantic Per Capita pay for?

Answer: Support the Office of the Synod Executive/Stated Clerk, Administrative staff, the annual Synod Assembly, Ecclesiastical committees and Synod Council.

Question: What does the General Assembly's Per Capita pay for?

Answer: The General Assembly's biannual meeting, moderator expenses, committee and commission expenses, membership and participation in national and international ecumenical groups, administrative and personnel expenses and building operations.

Question: Is Per Capita the same as Mission Giving?

Answer: Per Capita is **NOT MISSION GIVING**. Per Capita is distinguished from mission giving in that it is operational money needed to keep the three governing bodies of our church functional.
