

NOMINATION PROCEDURE FOR COMMISSIONERS AND ALTERNATES TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND YOUNG ADULT ADVISORY DELEGATE (YAAD)

Teaching elder and ruling elder commissioners and alternates to meetings of the General Assembly (GA) shall be nominated to achieve the goal of full participation as outlined in paragraph F-1.0403 of the Book of Order. The Stated Clerk shall maintain lists of teaching elders who have served as GA commissioners and congregations whose ruling elders have served as GA commissioners.

The Committee on Nominations and Representation shall nominate two (2) teaching elders and two (2) ruling elders as principal commissioners, and two (2) teaching elders and two (2) ruling elders as alternate commissioners through the application process. The Committee shall also nominate one Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD) and one alternate. When making its nominations, it shall seek to identify those who will best serve the needs of the GA and the Presbytery of Tampa Bay, taking into consideration the applications received and eligibility. The Committee will give priority to ruling elders from churches that have not provided a ruling elder commissioner to any of the previous five General Assemblies and to teaching elders who have not been a commissioner to any of the previous five General Assemblies. It will give consideration to congregation size and representation from the several Regions of the Presbytery. The Committee will also seek to nominate for balanced representation of ages, gender, racial/ethnic and theological understanding. When presenting its nominees to the Presbytery, the Committee shall provide brief biographical information of those being nominated in addition to the application form submitted by the commissioner nominee.

ELIGIBILITY TO SERVE

Teaching Elders

All teaching elders on the active, honorably retired, validated ministry, and member-at-large rosters of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay are eligible for nomination. Requirements include:

1. Enrolled in the Presbytery of Tampa Bay for at least three years prior to GA meeting.
2. Attended at least four of the Presbytery stated meetings during the two calendar years prior to the meeting of an election year (currently even numbered years of GA).
3. Must be a member of the Presbytery at time of GA, and not actively engaged in a search that might lead to a departure from the Presbytery within 1 year after serving as a GA commissioner.

Ruling Elders

To be eligible, the session of the congregation from which a ruling elder is nominated ordinarily shall have sent commissioners to at least four of the Presbytery or Regional Presbytery stated meetings during the two calendar years prior to the meeting of an election year (currently even numbered years of GA). Additionally:

1. Shall be recommended by her/his session.
2. Not moving from the Presbytery at time of GA.

Young Adult Advisory Delegate

The nominees shall be active members of one of the churches of our Presbytery between the ages of 17 and 23 on the date the GA convenes. The nominee shall be recommended by the Session of her/his church and invited by the session to submit an application to the Committee on Nominations and Representation.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications shall be available on the website of the Presbytery. Applications may be submitted at any time, but the *deadline for submission is September 12, 2021* for the 225th General Assembly which will be conducted on line and in Louisville, KY, from June 17- July 9, 2022 (view the docket and schedule at [225th General Assembly \(2022\) | From Lament to Hope \(ga-pcusa.org\)](https://ga-pcusa.org/) (<https://ga-pcusa.org/>). The Presbytery of Tampa Bay is scheduled to elect its GA Commissioners and YAAD at its Stated Meeting December 2, 2021.

The application includes the following information:

- 1) An agreement that the applicant is willing and able to report back to the Presbytery concerning the actions and experience of the GA. It is expected that all commissioners to the GA will report to the Presbytery through a variety of means during and following the GA.
- 2) A statement that the applicant understands and is willing to accept the rigors of participating fully in the work of the GA. Commissioners are required to read over 1,000 pages of online reports and overtures in advance. Long hours in committee meetings and plenary sessions is to be expected. For 2022, committees will travel to Louisville KY for their own work, but plenaries will be conducted online.
- 3) Information as to whether the applicant has previously attended the GA as an elected commissioner from any Presbytery, or as a visitor.
- 4) A statement of the applicant's experience within the local church.
- 5) A description of the applicant's activities and service within the structures of the Presbytery and other Presbyterian Church (USA) governing bodies.
- 6) A brief paragraph describing the applicant's understanding of the nature and work of the GA.
- 7) A single page (500 word max.) with biographical information and a response to the statement, "Why I would make a good commissioner to GA."
- 8) A one-page endorsement (500 word max.) from a teaching or ruling elder attesting to the applicant's involvement in the church as outlined in the application.
- 9) A statement as to the applicant's willingness to attend the GA as an alternate if needed and if not initially elected as a commissioner.
- 10) A recommendation from the session of the applicant's church, signed by the Clerk of Session.

TO BE CONSIDERED FOR NOMINATION AS A COMMISSIONER TO THE 225th GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ONLINE AND IN LOUISVILLE KY BETWEEN JUNE 17 AND JULY 9, 2022. Online plenaries will be held June 18 and July 5-9; committees will meet onsite for three full days each between June 17 and July 2:

1. Request an application from the stated clerk at statedclerk@pbty.com
2. Complete the application and biographical statement
3. Obtain an endorsement from a teaching or ruling elder
4. Have the Clerk of Session of your church sign the application
5. Submit the application and all endorsements by September 12, 2021.

-- OR --

Apply online by September 12 by [clicking here](https://forms.gle/nMULy9nbFnLRo5LG9)
(<https://forms.gle/nMULy9nbFnLRo5LG9>)

GA commissioner and YAAD Nominees' responses and biographical statements will be made available to all presbyters at the December 2, 2021, stated meeting.