

45-19 (to the floor)

From the Ad-Interim Committee on Ordination Standards

(These are not constitutional changes and will become effective upon GA approval)

Amend *Acts of Assembly* 82-07 Section 1 as noted below

Current Wording	Proposed Changes
<p><i>Uniform Procedures on Candidacy and Ordination</i></p> <p>1. Requirements for ordination shall be:</p> <p>a. Seminary degree – Master of Divinity or equivalent that shall include Old and New Testament Survey, Old Testament Exegesis, New Testament Exegesis, Church History (with an emphasis on the Reformation), Apologetics, Leadership, Preaching, Evangelism, Missiology, Discipleship/Disciple-making, Pastoral Care and Counseling, and Ethics.</p> <p>In addition:</p> <p>1) Three courses in systematic theology (equivalent nine semester-hours). Competency in Reformed theology as expressed in the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms shall be demonstrated through a standardized ordination exam governed by the Ministerial Vocation Committee.</p> <p>2) Original languages. The standard for ordination in the EPC is the ability to exegete competently the Scriptures in the original languages. This competency shall be demonstrated by a standardized open-book exegesis exam in either Greek or Hebrew, including a sermon manuscript based upon that exegesis, to be submitted within a one-week period. This exam shall be governed by the Ministerial Vocation Committee.</p> <p>3) “EPC specific” courses:</p> <p>(a) EPC Polity</p> <p>b. Care of the presbytery in accord with G.11-2</p> <p>c. Examinations – four written and one oral examination must be sustained;</p>	<p><i>Uniform Procedures on Candidacy and Ordination</i></p> <p>1. Requirements for ordination shall be:</p> <p>a. Seminary degree – Master of Divinity or equivalent that shall include Old and New Testament Survey, Old Testament Exegesis, New Testament Exegesis, Church History (with an emphasis on the Reformation), Apologetics, Leadership, Preaching, Evangelism, Missiology, Discipleship/Disciple-making, Pastoral Care and Counseling, and Ethics.</p> <p>In addition:</p> <p>1) Three courses in systematic theology (equivalent nine semester-hours). Competency in Reformed theology as expressed in the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms shall be demonstrated through a standardized ordination exam governed by the Ministerial Vocation Committee.</p> <p>2) Original languages. The standard for ordination in the EPC is the ability to exegete competently the Scriptures in the original languages. This competency shall be demonstrated by a standardized open-book exegesis exam in either Greek or Hebrew, including a sermon manuscript based upon that exegesis, to be submitted within a one-week period. This exam shall be governed by the Ministerial Vocation Committee.</p> <p>3) “EPC specific” courses:</p> <p>(a) EPC Polity</p> <p>b. Care of the presbytery in accord with G.11-2</p> <p>c. Examinations – four written and one oral examination must be sustained;</p>

<p>d. Valid call;</p> <p>e. Other evidence – Assurance those spiritual gifts needed for effective ministry are present and being developed.</p>	<p><u>1. The written exams shall be under the authority of the Ministerial Vocation Committee.</u></p> <p>d. Valid call;</p> <p>e. Other evidence – Assurance those spiritual gifts needed for effective ministry are present and being developed.</p>
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Amend *Acts of Assembly* 82-07 Section 2 as noted below

Current Wording	Proposed Changes
<p>2. All exceptions to fulfilling standards for ordination (extraordinary circumstances) will be referred to the permanent Committee on Ministerial Vocation for a recommended course of action, including continuing education and reading requirements. The presbytery of jurisdiction shall, in conjunction with the Committee on Ministerial Vocation:</p>	<p>2. All exceptions to fulfilling standards for ordination (extraordinary circumstances) will be referred to the permanent Committee on Ministerial Vocation for a recommended course of action, including continuing education and reading requirements. The presbytery of jurisdiction shall, in conjunction with the Committee on Ministerial Vocation:</p>

Rationale:

We revised *Acts of Assembly* 82-07 in order to clarify the authority of the Ministerial Vocation Committee over all national written exams in the ordination process, as well as eliminated the language of “extraordinary circumstances.”