

## Election of GA Commissioners & YAADs

### General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Presbytery of Seattle is entitled to two (2) ruling elder commissioners and two (2) teaching elder commissioners.

The process below strives to respect three Presbyterian Principles:

1. “the election of the persons to exercise authority, in any particular society, is in that society.” [F-3.0106]
  2. “Presbyters are not simply to reflect the will of the people, but rather to seek together to find and represent the will of Christ.” [F-3.0204]
  3. “The Presbyterian Church shall guarantee full participation or representation in its worship, governance, and emerging life to all persons or groups within its membership.” [F-1.0403]
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1. Nomination is by application (see below), which will be distributed to the presbytery for consideration.
  2. Nominees must be available for questioning at the time of the election.
  3. Selection is by election; that is a majority vote.
  4. Presbytery will vote until a majority and representation requirements are obtained.
  5. Alternates will be those with the next most votes.
  6. If no person meets all of the criteria, those who apply may be considered by the presbytery.

## Selection Criteria

### Teaching Elder (two) - At least one woman will be selected

- a. Membership in good standing and residency for at least two years.
- b. Previous Service – Has not served as a G.A. Commissioner for ten years.
- c. Service to the Presbytery – one or more of the following conditions:
  - i. At least 50% attendance at stated Presbytery meetings for the past two years.
  - ii. Current or recent service on a Commission or Committee of the Presbytery (COM, CPM, Executive Board, Nominating) with consistent attendance and participation.
  - iii. Current or recent service to a higher council of the church.
- d. Congregational Participation – Active participation in the life of a member congregation if not a pastor or associate pastor (e.g. regular worship attendance, adult education, etc.)
- e. Representation – Whenever one of the following categories has not been represented for three successive Assemblies, one of the teaching elder commissioners will be elected from that category unless no qualified teaching elder (including those above) is willing to serve.
  - i. Age group: under/over age of 50

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- ii. White/Person of Color
- iii. Male.
- iv. LGBTQ

## Ruling Elder Selection Criteria

- a. From a congregation that has been represented at least 75% of stated meetings for the prior two years from the date of the election.
- b. From a congregation that has not sent a Ruling Elder commissioner to one of the three previous assemblies.
- c. Service to the Presbytery – one or more of the following conditions:
  - i. Has attended presbytery at least twice during the previous two years.
  - ii. Current or recent service on a Commission or Committee of the Presbytery (COM, CPM, Executive Board, Nominating, and AC, etc. ), with consistent attendance and participation.
  - iii. Current or recent service to a higher council of the church.
- d. Must be endorsed by his or her session.
- e. Representation – Whenever one of the following categories has not been represented for three successive Assemblies, one of the ruling elder commissioners will be elected from that category unless no qualified teaching elder (including those above) is willing to serve.
  - i. Age group: under/over age of 50
  - ii. White/Person of Color
  - iii. Male.
  - iv. LGBTQ

## Young Adult Advisor Delegates – Required:

1. Must be between the ages of seventeen and twenty-three as of June the year of GA.
2. An active adult and/or confirmed member of a congregation.
3. Endorsed by the session

## **Application**

1. Only electronic files with all of the required fields completed will be accepted. Submit directly to the [nom@seattlepresbytery.org](mailto:nom@seattlepresbytery.org).
2. Extra pages will not be accepted. Please do not exceed the application length.
3. Complete the application and SAVE AS on your computer: *myname.GA.application.pdf*
4. Email the Nominating Committee with your application as an attachment.
5. If you do not meet all of the criteria but feel called to be a commissioner, please apply anyway. There may be no candidates who feel called that meet all the criteria.