



**Election of GA Commissioners and Young Adult Advisory**  
Delegates 226<sup>th</sup> (2024) General Assembly, Salt Lake City, UT  
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: SEPTEMBER 15, 2023

Are you being called to serve as a commissioner to the General Assembly? For many it has represented a once in a lifetime experience. The Presbytery of the Northwest Coast is entitled to two (2) ruling elder commissioners and (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]

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.

**Teaching Elder Selection Criteria (two)**

- 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 commissioners will be elected from that category unless no qualified teaching elder (including those above) is willing to serve.
  - (1) Gender
  - (2) Age group: under/over age of 50
  - (3) White/non-white
  - (4) Geography: Alaska/Washington

## **Ruling Elder Selection Criteria (two; one male, one female)**

- a. From a **church represented at least 75% of stated meetings** for prior two years.
- b. **Congregation has not sent a Ruling Elder commissioner to 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, an 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 teaching commissioners will be elected from that category unless no qualified teaching elder is willing to serve.
  - i. Age group: under/over age of 50
  - ii. White/non-white
  - iii Geography: Alaska/Washington

## **Young Adult Advisor Delegates – Required:**

- a. Between the ages of seventeen and twenty-three as of July 2, 2023.
- b. An active adult and/or confirmed member of a congregation.

## **How to Apply**

1. Download, complete and SAVE AS on your computer: *myname.GA.application.pdf*
2. Extra pages will not be accepted. Do not exceed the application length.
3. Only electronic files with all of the required fields completed will be accepted. Submit directly to the Stated Clerk ([dean@northwestcoast.org](mailto:dean@northwestcoast.org)).
4. Email the Stated Clerk 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 criteria.

# **SEPTEMBER 15, 2023 DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS**

*Applications submitted after this date will not be accepted  
Your email with attachment will be proof of your application date*