

## The 411 on Advisors

For the Advisor, just remember

**4-1-2**



# THE ADVISOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES EXPLAINED

As an Advisor, you will have **4** meaningful meetings\* with candidates per year, submit **1** report\*\* per year, and for the **2**, it's **2 P's**: coach the candidate through the ordination **process**\*\*\*, and **pray** together to discern and verify God's internal and external calls. Your role is vital; local connections foster growth.

If you're interested in serving our presbytery this way, please

**CONNECT WITH THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE**



PROCEDURE MANUAL  
FOR MINISTERIAL AND CANDIDATE  
COMMITTEES (38-39)



ADVISORS REPORT



MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE

\* According to a survey conducted by the EPC's Ministerial Vocation Committee in 2012, "A few candidates participating in the survey had little, if any, contact with their Advisors. In a few situations, they did not know who their Advisor was, pointing to the need for Presbyteries to develop appropriate accountability systems for Advisors."

\*\* <https://epconnect.org/wp-content/uploads/Advisors-Report.pdf>

\*\*\*Book of Order references: G.11-2.E, G.21-2.D.2.e.5

FLIP  
FOR DETAILS

Based on the Procedure Manual for Ministerial and Candidates Committee (pages 38–39), G.11-2.E, and the experience of a former Candidate Under Care highlighted in **yellow**, here's what being an Advisor would and could look like.

# 4

**Meetings.** Meet with the Candidate at least once a quarter, preferably in person. As conversations lead, here are the topics to cover:

- **Practical Experience.** "Advisors should help candidates reflect on their field experiences."
- **Just Life.** Support Candidates if/when issues surface up in your conversations, including: "marriage and family issues; faith and life (spiritual health, devotional life); financial; emotional health; character; leadership." Per the Procedure Manual, "the Advisor may handle directly or refer to the candidates' Pastors or other appropriate professional resources"
- **Theology.** "Advisors should help candidates determine/clarify their theological convictions." Everyone has a system of doctrine. Is the EPC and the PCC a good team fit for the Candidate? Recall your own written and floor exams!

"My Advisor had 30+ years of experience. I received really helpful questions and possible interpretations of what I had experienced."

"Life got difficult for me after having my first child. I reached out to him as if I was reaching out for a counselor. He was there for me then, and was subsequently there at my Installation here at my first call. I still Zoom with him once a month."

# 1

**Form For You.** Fill out and submit to the MC **the Advisor's Report** once a year. There are 4 questions that *should* essentially collate what you've already been discussing with your Candidate during your quarterly meetings:

1. In what ways have you communicated with and spent time with this candidate during the past year?
2. Please share an update regarding the candidate's personal, intellectual, academic and vocational growth
3. Are there any concerns and prayer requests that you or the candidate would like to communicate to the presbytery?
4. Are there any areas in which presbytery can take a more active role in the life of this candidate?

# 2

## Process

- **Checklists.** As a "project manager" so to speak, help and encourage the Candidate to fill out forms found on the PCC MC page as they apply to come under care and then as they work towards ordination.
- **Education.** Make sure the Candidate's education (whether through their seminary curriculum or an alternative track) they're receiving will meet the denominational requirements.
- **Looking for a Call.** "Advisors should help candidates understand the process of finding a call."

"My Advisor looked at and talked through multiple Ministry Staff Opportunities postings with me. That was invaluable for me and a large factor for how I arrived at my first pastorate."

## Pray

Pray with and for the Candidate to discern God's call for them.

