



# The Presbytery of Carlisle

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## 2026 Minimum Terms of Call for Ministers of the Word and Sacrament

The Presbytery is required to establish Minimum Terms of Call for ministers serving within our jurisdiction (G-2.0804). The Minimum Terms of Call effective on all Calls as of January 1, 2026 are noted below. Sessions are required to annually review the adequacy of compensation for all their staff (G-2.0804). **When reviewing compensation, it is suggested that Sessions and Congregations take into consideration the value of the ministry their pastor (s) is doing and consider an increase in their compensation.**

Allocation of the following items will be determined by the individual situation. Pastors and churches may vary how the total of items 1-5 is distributed. **For example**, if the total Salary and Housing (Lines 1 and 2) is \$70,000, the pastor could request the church to designate any combination equaling the \$70,000 figure.

1. Annual Cash Salary
2. Housing, utility and furnishings Allowances
3. Employing organization contributions to 403 (b) plans, tax sheltered annuity plans.\*
4. Bonuses, overtime pay, unvouchered professional expenses allowance, gifts from employing organization.
5. Other allowances (for example medical deductible, SECA in excess of 7.65% of Effective Salary)
6. Manse Value- (*Board of Pensions regulations require that "Manse Value" must be at least 30% of Lines 1-5 for members residing in employer provided housing*) **Do not include utilities paid directly by the church.**
7. **Total Effective Salary (Add lines 1-6 minus church-paid utilities for a manse)**  
**Minimum Effective Salary for 2026: \$62,687.00**

### OTHER MINIMUMS

**Board of Pensions Benefit Plan-** Use this [link](#) to visit the Board of Pensions website or read through the options below and enter the number on line 8 on the 2026 Terms of Call form

#### **For All Installed Pastors:**

**Congregational Pastors Package** - Dues are 10% of Effective Salary plus Option 1, 2, 3, or 4:

1. **Pastor only – 17.5% of Effective Salary**
  2. **Pastor plus Spouse – 17.5% of Effective Salary plus \$12,250** (\$18,750/\$30,750 min/max)
  3. **Pastor plus children – 17.5% of Effective Salary plus \$9,950** (\$16,450/\$28,450 min/max)
  4. **Pastor plus family – 17.5% of Effective Salary plus \$22,200** (\$28,700/\$40,700 min/max)
- OR 2025 Transitional Pastor's Package** – dues are 47% of Effective Salary (\$18,500/\$50,000 min/max)

**For Temporary Pastors at least 20 hours/week:** (Those involving a Covenant of Agreement)

#### **Congregational Pastors Package**

- Dues are as indicated above for Installed Pastors with NO option for Transitional Pastor's Package OR **Covenant Package** (10% of Effective Salary) for income protection benefits

**Vacation** – 30 days to include a minimum of 4 Sundays. Those part-time also receive 30 days.

**Continuing Education Allowance** – \$1000 per year- may accumulate to \$3000.

**Continuing Education Leave** – 14 days including 2 Sundays annually, may accumulate to 42 days.

**Travel Allowance** – Current allowable IRS rate.

**Spiritual Renewal** – One (1) day per quarter (not a Sunday) for spiritual renewal and development Allowances are to be vouchered rather than given as direct payments to clergy because of IRS regulations.

**Family Medical Leave** – a minimum of 12 weeks paid family medical leave per G-2.0804.

\*Employer Contributions. If any part or all of the Employing Organization contribution to a 403(b) is a “match” of an elective contribution by a Pastor, the matching amount must be excluded from Total Effective Salary- Line 7- when figuring Board of Pensions Dues) Use Line 3a on *Terms of Call Report Form*

**Social Security Self-Employment Contributions Act (SECA) Offset. The Committee on Ministry encourages congregations to assist** their pastor (s) by paying the amount equal to the normal portion of Social Security an employer would pay on an employee’s salary. Currently that amount is 7.65% of Effective Salary. ***See Line 12 of Terms of Call Report Form.*** This SECA offset is considered income when calculating federal taxes.

*Revised July 2025*