

PRESBYTERY OF EASTER VIRGINIA

801 Loudoun Avenue
Portsmouth, VA 23707-3216

APPLICATION FOR COMMISSIONED RULING ELDER TRAINING

Personal Information

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Name & address of your PCUSA church: _____

How long have you served as an elder? _____

Please provide a 1/2 to 1 page response to each of the following:

1. Please attach a brief statement of your personal faith (the type of statement which frequently is required of elders or of students in a confirmation class). Describe what you believe about God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, and your relationship to them. You may also wish to include a summary of your understanding of the role of scripture, the church, the sacraments and of the Reformed tradition.
2. Please describe your experience as a leader both in the church (congregation, session, presbytery, etc.) and where appropriate, in the community, including your current and prior vocations.
3. Please describe your experience in the area of communication (both within the church - e.g. preaching, teaching, working with groups - and outside of the church).
4. What leads you to believe that God is calling you to prepare yourself to become a Commissioned Ruling Elder? What gifts and skills do you bring to this program? In what areas of your Christian life - both personally and professionally - would you like to grow?
5. Describe how you will balance the demands of your personal commitment to your CRE ministry and your secular responsibilities.

Pastor/Session Endorsement

Please submit the materials above to your pastor or to the moderator of the session of your church. The pastor and session will review your application with you before forwarding their endorsing letter to the CRE subcommittee of the COM. No application can be considered without an endorsement from the pastor and session.

Computer Proficiency, UDTSlerning.net and the CRE Process

PEVA's CRE program involves a significant amount of online study. The online component of this program is offered through UDTSlerning.net (a program for online learning through the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary). After you have been approved to be a candidate in PEVA's CRE program, you will be expected to take eight core courses required of Presbyterian CRE's (i.e., Introduction to Old Testament, Introduction to New Testament, Pastoral Care, Presbyterian Polity, Reformed Theology, Introduction to Preaching, Foundation of Christian Education and Reformed Worship & Sacraments). After you have successfully completed all of these courses, you will meet with the CRE Committee for a final exit interview and examination.

Before you submit this application, please review the online material from UDTSl.

Annual Review

If commissioned, there will be an annual review with the CRE candidate and a report required from the CRE mentor. The review will be conducted by the members of the CRE subcommittee and will cover concerns, issues and progress.

Statement of Consent

I am applying to the Commissioned Ruling Elder program of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia. If accepted, I commit myself to participating fully in the scheduled activities and assignments to the best of my ability. I understand that successful completion of CRE training is necessary before one can be commissioned as a CRE. I also recognize that completion of the educational portion of the program does not guarantee certification or a position as a CRE. Certification and commissioning depend upon a successful interview and endorsement of the Commission on Ministry.

I understand that the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia and/or any local congregation to which I may be commissioned must conduct a criminal background check or other screening it deems necessary and appropriate.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Upon completion, please mail this material to:

CRE Subcommittee of COM
Presbytery of Eastern Virginia
801 Loudoun Avenue
Portsmouth, VA 23707-3216