

Grace Presbytery
COM Policy for Laboring Within and Without the Bounds
Approved COM April 15, 2025

Every minister shall ordinarily be a member of the presbytery where his or her work is situated or of the presbytery where he or she resides (**G-3.0306 Membership of Presbytery**)

1. **Laboring outside the Bounds:** Teaching elders who are members of Grace Presbytery, who wish to labor outside the bounds, are automatically granted permission to do so if the following criteria are met:
 - a. The presbytery of labor gives permission, if it is required.
 - b. The minister is in good standing within Grace Presbytery and his or her service is not restricted in any fashion by prior disciplinary action or COM oversight.
 - c. The work performed does not extend beyond one month in duration.
 - d. The work does not involve service at a congregation or with a member previously served by the teaching elder as an installed, interim or stated supply pastor or associate pastor. (See "Guidelines for Pastoral Courtesy" posted on <https://gracepresbytery.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Guidelines-for-Pastoral-Courtesy.pdf>)

When the above criteria are met, the labor is approved.

When any one of these criteria is not met, the request must come to the COM for approval.

2. **Laboring within the Bounds:** Teaching elders who are members of other presbyteries who wish to labor within the bounds of Grace Presbytery, are automatically granted permission to do so if the following criteria are met:
 - a. The minister is in good standing in their home presbytery and whose service is not restricted in any fashion by prior disciplinary actions or COM oversight.
 - b. The work performed does not extend beyond one month in duration.
 - c. The work does not involve service at a congregation or with a member previously served by the teaching elder as an installed, interim or stated supply pastor or associate pastor. (See "Guidelines for Pastoral Courtesy" posted on <https://gracepresbytery.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Guidelines-for-Pastoral-Courtesy.pdf>)

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When any one of these criteria is not met, the request must come to the COM for approval.