

ORDINATION EXAMINATIONS OVERVIEW

Commission on Preparation for Ministry
Pittsburgh Presbytery

The Presbyterian Church (USA) administers ordination examinations as a reasonably uniform (standard) process for assessing the readiness of a candidate to begin service as teaching elders. According to representatives of the denomination's Committee on Cooperative Examinations, the purpose of these examinations is to evaluate a Candidate's ability to utilize skills necessary for effective ministry. It is not the purpose of the examinations to assess the theological orthodoxy of a Candidate. That is the role of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry.

Specific details, including the purpose, the role, and the administration of the five examinations

- § Bible Content (pg. 24)
- § Bible Exegesis (pg. 31)
- § Church Polity (pg. 40)
- § Theological Competence (pg. 45)
- § Worship & Sacraments (pg. 55)

are outlined in the *Handbook on Standard Ordination Examinations* published by the PC(USA) and available online at: <http://www.pcusa.org/get/resources/resource/2758/>

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