

**Presbytery of the West Virginia
Committee on Ministry
Boundary Training Guidelines**

I Introduction

Boundary training is mandatory in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Training focuses on implementing presbytery policies on sexual misconduct, child and youth protection and anti-harassment. Participants will learn the role of power and vulnerability to create and maintain healthy boundaries while also learning healthy self-care strategies. The Committee is in compliance with Book Of Order G-3.0106 which states, “. . . each council’s policy shall include requirements for boundary training, which includes the topic of sexual misconduct, and child sexual abuse prevention training, for its members at least every 36 months.” These guidelines outline the mechanisms for training and accountability with respect to boundary violations.

II Scope

These guidelines apply to all Book of Order defined members of the Presbytery of West Virginia (PWV). Each Policy also defines those required to be trained. To administer this attendance requirement, Presbytery Staff and the Committee on Ministry will identify and alert members needing to be trained of the date(s) for that year’s training.

Members of PWV who question their need for training will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by COM in consultation with staff.

III Boundary Training Requirements

- a. Frequency: All members shall complete boundary training every 36 months (BOO G-3.0106). Training will ordinarily be conducted in person. In extenuating circumstances, the training may be completed through a PWV-approved website.
- b. Initial Notice: Members will be notified by Presbytery Staff and given the date(s) of that year’s training.
- c. Curriculum: The training shall be comprehensive, incorporating elements of sexual misconduct and child and youth abuse prevention, and employing discussions, case studies, and role-playing exercises to ensure thorough understanding. COM has the final authority for approving acceptable curricula, both online and in person.
- d. Online training cost is borne by the individual taking the training.
- e. Certification: Within 14 days of completing training, members shall forward a copy of their completion certificate to the Stated Clerk.
- f. Record-Keeping: The Presbytery office staff will maintain a centralized database tracking the training status of each member, including the date of their last training and certification status.

IV. Responsibilities

- a. PWV Member

It is the responsibility of the member to be compliant with the polices and these guidelines.

b. COM

i. Training Schedule: COM will create and maintain a schedule for regular boundary training opportunities, ensuring that each member has access to the required training.

ii. Communication: COM will notify all members about upcoming training opportunities in advance through various channels like email, newsletters, and the Presbytery's website.

iii. Facilitation: COM will be responsible for identifying qualified trainers to conduct the training sessions. These trainers may be internal experts or contracted professionals.

iv. Online Options: Online training modules shall also be made available. These modules should be completed within a set timeframe to obtain certification.

c. Stated Clerk

i. Compliance: The Stated Clerk will oversee issues of non-compliance. Non-compliance may result in COM's not approving the next year's Covenant.