



MINISTER

Return from full-time retirement

Purpose

To outline the steps necessary for a Minister who is designated as permanently retired, to return to active ministry.

Scope

This process applies to Ministers, Presbyteries and the Placements Committee within the bounds of the Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland Synod.

Process

The Minister will approach their Presbytery Minister and indicate that they wish to come out of permanent retirement.

1. The Presbytery Minister will determine the grounds on which the Minister retired:
 - Age (over 55)
 - Unfit for active service
 - Any reason which Placements Committee after consultation with the Presbytery considers sufficient.
2. Where the Minister retired on the grounds of age. The Presbytery Minister will discuss with the Minister:
 - Their current age
 - The length of time since their retirement
 - Level of energy and capacity for ministry
3. Where retirement on grounds of unfitness for active service (ill-health) or a considerable period of time has passed since active service, the Presbytery Minister will arrange for the Minister to obtain a medical certificate indicating that the Minister is fit for active service.
4. Where the Minister retired under 2.6.1 (d) (3) “any other reason”, then Placements Committee will determine whether circumstances have changed such that it would be appropriate for the Minister to be in active service. The Committee may meet with the Minister (see below) and seek other information or reports as considered necessary for this purpose.
5. Placements Committee may meet with the Minister for the purposes of establishing:
 - Suitability for placement
 - Reasons for their return to active service
 - Profile and experience in active ministry
 - The extent to which the Minister has remained current in the practice of ministry since their retirement.
 - Where retirement for “any other reason” whether the circumstances of the Minister have changed so that the reasons for retirement no longer apply.



MINISTER Return from full-time retirement

A Minister who has met the requirements for points 2 and 3 above should be considered eligible for the category of awaiting placement but advice to the Minister about his or her chances of being placed must be provided. Such advice may assist the Minister to decide whether to return to the awaiting placement category.

Revisions & Reviews

#	Date	Reason	Author / Reviewer	Approved
1	22 Jan 2018	Review existing process	D Fender, Associate General Secretary	D Fender, Associate General Secretary
2	10 Jan 2025	Review existing process	L Hanson Associate General Secretary	L Hanson Associate General Secretary