

MMHS BASIC ELIGIBILITY RULES

- Retiring Presbyters/Deacons – including those retiring early for medical reasons – who have completed at least 10 years in full-time ministry.
- Presbyters/Deacons must have served the required minimum number of years in full-time ministry in the British or Irish Methodist Connexion immediately prior to retirement.
- Presbyters/Deacons must be in receipt of his or her full Methodist Church pension entitlement.
- There must be compliance with MMHS capital and income limits.
- Full-time ministry includes the following categories, as set out in Standing Order 780(1):
 - (i) in a circuit appointment in a home district;
 - (ii) in a district appointment;
 - (iii) in a Connexional appointment;
 - (iv) in a chaplaincy relating to the forces, prisons, healthcare institutions, educational institutions, workplaces or other bodies as approved by the Stationing Committee, on a recommendation of the Stationing Advisory Committee, or the relevant members of the Connexional Team, *but only where the remuneration is equivalent to that of the Connexionally recommended stipend. There will be an allowance for additional payments where no accommodation is provided;*
 - (v) not eligible;
 - (vi) in a mission partnership with an overseas district, another conference or church as approved by the Stationing Committee, on a recommendation from the Connexional Team member appointed to the committee under Standing Order 322(1)(vi);
 - (vii) with permission to serve another conference or church under Standing Order 735. Note: Ministers in category (vii) needing the help of the Society will only be housed within the home districts;
 - (viii) not eligible;
 - (ix) with permission to study under Standing Order 773;
 - (x) not applicable;
 - (xi) may receive consideration but see provision below for breaks in service.

Full-time for those ordained after 1st September 2006, ministry does not include:

- service with another denomination either in the UK or abroad. (*However, years of service given as a recognised and regarded minister immediately prior to being received into full connexion will be considered*);
- years in training;
- years in other posts within the church – eg lay worker, youth worker, years served in the former category of minister in local appointment;
- a break in service is permitted but must not be for more than 5 years before the normal date of retirement.

Additional Factors

The following factors are taken into account for those ministers who entered ministry before 1st September 2006:

1 service with another denomination for 1-3 years will receive a credit of 1 year's service to be added to the number of years served in the Methodist ministry;

2 service with another Methodist Connexion for 1-3 years will receive a credit of 1 year's service to be added to the number of years served in the Methodist ministry;

3 service with another denomination for 4 years or more will receive a credit of 2 years' service to be added to the number of years served in the Methodist ministry;

4 service with another Methodist Connexion for 4 years or more will receive a credit of 2 years' service to be added to the number of years served in the Methodist ministry;

5 service in the church for 1-3 years in a role where the salary package is equal to or less than a stipend will receive a credit of 1 year's service to be added to the number of years served in the Methodist ministry;

6 service in the church for 4 years or more, in a role where the salary package is equal to or less than a stipend, will receive a credit of 2 years' service to be added to the number of years served in the Methodist ministry;

7 years of service in the former category of Minister in Local Appointment will not be included;

8 a break in service is permitted, but the minister must have served in full-time ministry for a minimum of 10 years, in the 15 years prior to retirement.

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