

The Board of Pensions administers the Benefits Plan of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), offering retirement, healthcare, death, and disability benefits to qualifying members. The Board also provides financial and vocational grants through the Assistance Program.

Summary

The mission of Board University is to educate for wholeness and provide learning opportunities for the seasons of ministry. Specific educational opportunities span the realms of well-being — spiritual, health, financial, and vocational — and educational formats, including conferences, retreats, seminars, and e-learning. Through its comprehensive educational offerings, Board University strives to strengthen and sustain the Church's ministry.

Eligibility and Cost

Board University educational opportunities and resources — except for CREDO — are provided to Benefits Plan members and their spouses, retirees, surviving spouses, church treasurers and business administrators, and mid councils free of charge. Travel, lodging, and meal expenses for seminars and the Well-Being Retreat vary and are the responsibility of the participant.

Conferences and Retreats

Board University sponsors CREDO conferences for recently ordained, mid-career, and late-career pastors. Held in retreat-like settings, CREDO is an opportunity for pastors to examine key areas of their personal and professional lives and find greater clarity and purpose in both. (See Benefits Overview: Presbyterian CREDO on pensions.org).

Each year Board University also hosts, in partnership with the Presbyterian Foundation, a well-being retreat in a tranquil setting, such as Montreat Conference Center or Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center. The retreat is open to members, retirees, spouses, and surviving spouses. Workshops and guided activities are available for exploring the spiritual, health, financial, and vocational realms of well-being.

In-Person Seminars

Seminars are offered throughout the year across the country, and provide an opportunity for learning, asking questions, and engaging with peers. Visit pensions.org/seminars to find out more. Some of the seminars offered are listed below.

Getting in Shape Fiscally: general financial planning, including debt management and budgeting — for plan members, seminarians, and their guests

Growing into Tomorrow ... Today: a journey toward wholeness in retirement living — a two-day seminar for members and guests within 15 years of retirement

Render unto Caesar: structuring of clergy taxes and terms of call to be more cost-effective — for treasurers, administrators, and active clergy (ministers and elders)

Third Act Seminar: an opportunity to engage on topics of interest to those in their third act of life and in fellowship and worship with colleagues — for plan retirees, spouses, surviving spouses, and their guests

First Call, First Steps: tools and resources for navigating the call process and covenanting terms of call — for seminary students and others seeking ordination in the PC(USA)

E-Learning

For those who can't fit a seminar into their schedule, there is a growing library of online learning modules — information available 24/7. A few examples follow.

Benefits

Effective Salary: Why It's So Important To Get It Right

About Your Benefit: The Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

A Gift from the Church to the Church: The Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions

Tax-Advantaged Plans: Using Section 125 & 105 Plans To Increase Employee Take-Home Pay

Health

Answering the Call to Health

Finance

Personal Finance Series: 10 self-paced lessons on the fundamentals of managing finances, such as creating a budget, managing debt, and saving for college

Basic Investment Series: 5 self-paced lessons covering a range of investment topics, from the difference between stocks and bonds to allocating your assets

Taxes

Tax Tips for Members and Churches — Tax Year 2017

The Clergy Housing Allowance

Imputed Value of Death Benefits

What Is the Retirement Savings Plan of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)?

Tax Advantages of the 403(b)(9) Retirement Savings Plan of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

For More Information

The learning resources available through Board University are explained more fully at pensions.org/boarduniversity.

Other educational resources can be found online and include publications, checklists, and worksheets to assist with personal finance matters, tax preparation, and retirement planning.

If you have questions about Board University, visit pensions.org, or contact the Board of Pensions at 800-773-7752 (800-PRESPLAN).

