(POL-DRIVER) Church Driver Approval Policy

General Board Approved: May 31, 2026

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear standards for approving individuals to drive for church ministry.

Transportation is a practical part of ministry, but it also carries responsibility. The church desires to protect passengers, drivers, families, the public, and the testimony of the church.

2. Scope

This policy applies to any person who drives for a church-sponsored ministry, activity, event, or trip, whether using:

- A church-owned vehicle;
- A rented vehicle;
- A borrowed vehicle;
- A personal vehicle.

This policy applies whenever the transportation is organized, requested, approved, or reasonably understood to be part of church ministry.

3. Approved Driver Requirement

Only approved drivers may drive for church ministry activities.

A person becomes an approved driver only after completing the approval process and being accepted by the General Board.

4. Minimum Driver Qualifications

To be approved as a church driver, a person must:

- Be at least 21 years old, unless an exception is approved by the General Board for limited local driving;
- Possess a valid driver's license appropriate for the vehicle being operated;
- Provide current license information to the church;
- Provide proof of current automobile insurance when using a personal vehicle;
- Authorize a motor vehicle record check when requested;
- Complete any required driver information form;
- Agree to follow all church transportation policies and safety expectations.

5. CDL Requirement

If a vehicle or situation requires a Commercial Driver's License under applicable law, the driver must possess the proper CDL and any required endorsements before operating the vehicle for church ministry.

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6. Driver Information and Review

Drivers may be asked to provide:

- Full legal name;
- Date of birth;
- Driver's license number and state;
- License expiration date;
- Insurance information;
- Vehicle information, when using a personal vehicle;
- History of accidents, violations, suspensions, revocations, restrictions, DUI/DWI charges, or other relevant matters.

7. Motor Vehicle Record Checks

The church may review motor vehicle records for approved drivers before approval and periodically afterward.

The church may also request an updated motor vehicle record after an accident, violation, complaint, or concern.

8. Duty to Report Changes

Approved drivers must promptly report to the General Board:

- License suspension, restriction, cancellation, or revocation;
- DUI/DWI arrest, charge, or conviction;
- At-fault accident;
- Serious traffic violation;
- Loss or cancellation of auto insurance;
- Medical or physical condition that may impair safe driving;
- Any other matter that may affect driving safety.

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9. Disqualifying or Concerning Factors

A person may be denied approval, restricted, or removed from the approved driver list for:

- Invalid, suspended, revoked, restricted, or expired license;
- Lack of required insurance;
- DUI/DWI history;
- Reckless driving;
- Pattern of accidents or violations;
- Serious moving violations;
- Failure to disclose relevant information;
- Criminal conduct affecting safety or judgment;
- Physical or medical condition that prevents safe driving;
- Any concern that the General Board determines makes the person unsuitable to drive for church ministry.

10. Annual or Periodic Review

The church shall periodically review the approved driver list. Drivers may be asked to update their information annually or before major trips.

11. Removal from Approved Driver List

The church may remove a person from the approved driver list at any time if continued driving is unsafe, unwise, or inconsistent with church policy.

Removal from the approved driver list does not necessarily imply wrongdoing. It may be done for safety, insurance, or prudential reasons.

12. Review

This policy shall be reviewed periodically by the General Board and may be revised as needed.

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