



Methodist Ministers' Housing Society

Eligibility Rules

- Presbyters/Deacons must be either 64 years of age or over or have completed 40 years service.
- Presbyters/Deacons must have served the required minimum number of years in full time ministry in the British Methodist Connexion immediately prior to retirement.
- The required minimum number of years in 2010 will be 12 years. This increases as follows:

2011 – 13 years
2012 – 14 years
2013 – 15 years
2014 – 16 years
2015 – 17 years
2016 – 18 years
2017 – 19 years
2018 – 20 years.

- 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, health-care institutions, educational institutions, work-places 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 1 September 2006 ministry does not include:

Service with another denomination either in the U.K. 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 e.g. 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 1 September 2006:

- a) 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.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) 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.
- e) 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.
- f) 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.
- g) Years of service in the former category of Minister in Local Appointment will not be included.
- h) 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.