



**North Carolina Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

## **Boundary Training Policy**

All rostered ministers of the NC Synod (Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Ministers of Word and Service) are expected to complete an initial Basic Boundary Training followed by an additional training every three years. Training that will meet this requirement will be offered at least annually by the synod. The requirement may also be met through approved training offered by employers such as schools and agencies or by professional organizations such as the American Association of Pastoral Counselors. Reciprocal arrangements may also be made through other synods or full communion partners. Training not offered through the NC Synod must be approved by the bishop or the staff person designated as the point person for misconduct prevention and documentation must be provided for the rostered minister's file.

All rostered ministers are expected to be current on boundary training when completing mobility forms or seeking a new call. Rostered ministers who wish to be available for appointments to interim ministry, extended supply, or for supply through the synod office are also expected to be up-to-date with training.

A record of completed boundary training is kept in the NC Synod database and documentation is provided for rostered ministers as needed.

Boundary training is one way that the NC Synod works to ensure the care and safety of those who are served by rostered ministers in our synod. Background for this policy and other information may be found in the document *Sexual Misconduct Policies and Procedures for Rostered Ministers* which is located under *Resources for Leaders* at [www.nclutheran.org](http://www.nclutheran.org). Boundary (sometimes called "ethics") training is now required for church professionals by many insurance policies, and failure to complete it may become a liability issue for ministers, congregations, and synods.

Adopted by the NC Synod Council, March 18, 2017