

Westminster Subscription

The Westminster Confession of Faith (WCF) is a confessional statement of orthodox Presbyterianism. The Evangelical Presbyterian Church subscribes to the WCF and its associated Larger (WLC) and Shorter (WSC) Catechisms as our sole subordinate standard of doctrine according to Scripture. The WCF constitutes a system of biblical truth that an officer of the EPC is required to subscribe to. By subscription, the Teaching Elder affirms not only general approbation, but also vows to teach in accord with the doctrinal positions of the WCF (G.13-2A.3; 25-2). Individual Courts of the Church have freedom to allow exceptions that do not infringe upon the system of doctrine in the WCF.

The Candidate or transferring Teaching Elder shall provide a written statement of any exceptions to Westminster (G.12-4). The Presbytery shall act to acknowledge subscription, and allow or disallow any exceptions submitted. Following ordination, should the Teaching Elder develop exceptions to Westminster, they shall report those exceptions to the Ministerial Committee, and the Presbytery shall act to allow or disallow these exceptions (G.12-4; 13-2A.4).

If the Candidate or Teaching Elder wishes to take an exception to Westminster, they should first consult with their Ministerial Committee Advisor to determine if the concern is truly an exception or a misunderstanding. Particular concern over something in WCF may be the result of a lack of knowledge, content, context, or usage, and should be pursued to the Teaching Elders satisfaction. If concern remains, they should record an exception. An exception requires both a statement of disagreement and an alternative biblical position. The exception should reference relevant portions of the Confessions and associated Catechism questions.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Please **initial** one of the following statements:

_____ I subscribe to Westminster without exception.

_____ I subscribe to Westminster with the following exception(s).

If you have an exception please attach a written record using the following form for each instance.

WCF, WLC, WSC Citations:

Statement of Disagreement:

Alternative Biblical Position: