



# Episcopal Church

Resources	Overview of Ordination Process & Requirements*	Coursework required*
<p><i>Constitution &amp; Canons</i>, “Title III: Ministry” (see Canon 8: “Of the Ordination of Priests” starting on page 79) <a href="https://extranet.generalconvention.org/staff/files/download/6994.pdf">https://extranet.generalconvention.org/staff/files/download/6994.pdf</a></p> <p>Contact: The Revd. Dr. Euan Cameron (<a href="mailto:ecameron@uts.columbia.edu">ecameron@uts.columbia.edu</a>) Henry Luce III Professor of Reformation Church History at Union Theological Seminary</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As a baptized Episcopal member, <i>aspirant</i> starts conversation with her/his parish (usually clergy, then parish committee), who will reflect &amp; decide whether to recommend to Diocese.</li> <li>If recommended to Diocese by parish, the <i>aspirant’s</i> file is reviewed by the Bishop, who will interview <i>aspirant</i> after s/he is interviewed and recommended by a Commission on Ministry (or equivalent body). If approved to become a <i>postulant</i>, Bishop decides a training program in conversation with <i>postulant</i>.</li> <li>In the course of formation, the <i>postulant’s</i> file is reviewed again by the diocesan Commission on Ministry and the Bishop, who may approve progress from <i>postulant</i> to <i>candidate</i> for Holy Orders. This will typically happen between one and two years after admission as a <i>postulant</i>.</li> <li>General Ordination Examinations are usually taken in last year of theological study.</li> </ol> <p>*See your Diocese’s overview of the discernment process (i.e., for New York, visit <a href="http://www.diocesenyc.org/pages/301-discernment-for-ordination-as-a-priest">http://www.diocesenyc.org/pages/301-discernment-for-ordination-as-a-priest</a>) and the <i>Constitution &amp; Canons</i> for details.</p>	<p>Although required courses will vary by individual (as determined by Bishop), courses on <b>Episcopal polity and canons</b> are typically a minimum. <b>Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)</b> is often required. It is also helpful to take classes on the <b>Episcopal church history, liturgy, and</b> in the following <b>areas tested on the General Ordination Examination (GOE)</b> (see <a href="http://www.episcopalgbec.org/">http://www.episcopalgbec.org/</a>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scripture</li> <li>• Church History including the Ecumenical Movement</li> <li>• Christian Theology including Theology and Missiology</li> <li>• Christian Ethics and Moral Theology</li> <li>• Studies in Contemporary Society including Racial and Minority Groups</li> <li>• Liturgics and Church Music</li> <li>• Theory &amp; Practice of Ministry</li> </ul> <p>The Diocese will also require candidates to complete its own <b>training programs in anti-racism, prevention of sexual misconduct in ministry, and the disciplinary canons</b> (“Title IV”) of the Episcopal Church.</p> <p>*Ordination requirements vary by bishop and diocese (usually based on individual needs). <b>One year at an Episcopal seminary (following Union) is not an uncommon requirement.</b></p>