



Mission Resourcing

Private Bag 11-903, Ellerslie 1542 409 Great South Road, Penrose, Auckland
Phone (09) 525 4179 Fax (09) 525 4346 Email nehu@missionresourcing.org.nz

The Path to Ordination

Stage 1: PRIVATE STUDENT

In all cases, anyone thinking of becoming a candidate for presbyter or deacon must be enrolled in a course of study at Trinity College. For many prospective candidates this will be the Discernment in Ministry Programme, but that may vary according to previous experience and after an interview with the college principal. At this stage all such persons are Private Students at Trinity College and will find themselves among others doing similar courses who have no desire to candidate for ordination. Becoming a Private Student at Trinity College is the first step towards ordination for all irrespective of studies.

Stage 2: CANDIDATE

In order to move from the category of Private Student to Candidate for ordained ministry (presbyter or deacon), each person must inform their home parish superintendent and the Synod Candidates Convenor by the appropriate date (from 2013 this must be done from mid- August and the first set of forms will be sent by Mission Resourcing upon notification from the Synod Candidates Convenor). These forms must be returned to Mission Resourcing by 29 November for the candidate to enter the system that year. Once a Private Student has entered this process, that person becomes a CANDIDATE for ordained ministry. This status will last until the outcome is known after the Candidates' Assessment Weekend held early May (as from May 2014). It is important to understand that Private Students will enter the Candidating process at various stages of their studies, depending on when they feel the call to offer for ordination. Some will candidate in their first year of study, others in their final year of the LiMS or Diploma course. Whatever course of study is being followed, people remain Private Students until they enter the process towards ordination through their synod.

Stage 3: STUDENT PRESBYTER/DEACON

Candidates who are accepted by the Candidates' Assessment Panel to continue towards ordination, but who still have studies to complete at Trinity College, then become Student Presbyters or Student Deacons. For those who are accepted by the Candidates' Assessment Panel in their final year of study, they will become probationer presbyters or probationer deacons and join the stationing process, once their studies have been signed off by the Student Review Panel. This new way of referring to people who are still studying at Trinity College after having been accepted by

the Candidates' Assessment Panel will help to clarify the path towards ordination because each stage has a separate title.

Stage 4: Probationer Presbyter/Deacon

When a student presbyter or student deacon has been signed off by the Student Review Panel as having completed the required studies, they will be stationed into their first appointment, be that stipendiary or self-supporting. Probation normally lasts 2 years and any studies are overseen by Trinity College, Synod Assessor of Probationers and ultimately, the Ordination Assessment Panel before proceeding to Conference for ordination.