

African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME)

Resources	Overview of Ordination Process & Requirements*	Coursework Required*
<p><i>AME Links</i></p> <p>African Methodist Episcopal Church Website: www.ame-church.com(link is external)</p> <p>First Episcopal District of the A.M.E. Church Website: www.firstdistrictame.org(link is external)</p> <p>Contacts:</p> <p>For regional information consult: First Episcopal District of the A.M.E. Church (covers New York, as well as Bermuda, Delaware, New England, New Jersey, Western New York, and Philadelphia)</p> <p>Bishop Gregory G.M. Ingram of First District office, located at 3801 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104 or call (215) 662-0506</p> <p>New York Conference (part of the First District) List of local NY churches can be found here</p> <p>Union Contact:</p>	<p><i>Summary of <u>recommended</u> ordination standards:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To become an ordained minister in the AME Church, one must first be a regular and in good standing member of an AME Church for two years. 2. If you feel a calling, you must speak to the pastor of that charge. The pastor determines if you are pursuing the itinerant or local track. 3. After a candidate gives a trial sermon, the church will vote in a church conference if a candidate is to be submitted as a potential licentiate. 4. At the quarterly conference at that church, the Presiding Elder will then issue a preaching license, valid for a year. 5. A candidate will be taken before the District Conference to be voted to be admitted into Annual Conference. <p>It is only after these steps are you allowed to go to the admission's class of the Board of Examiners (BOE). It takes five years to go through the BOE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be an itinerant Elder, you must have a Master's degree from an accredited seminary. • To be an itinerant Deacon, after three years of BOE you may be ordained a Deacon if you have a bachelor's degree. • To be a Local Deacon, you must have attended the BOE for three years. • To be a Local Elder, you must complete all five years of the BOE. <p>The African Methodist Episcopal Church has full communion agreements with the following denominations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church • The African Union Methodist Protestant Church • The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church • The Union Methodist Episcopal Church • The United Methodist Church 	<p>The process of ministerial ordination is governed by the local congregation and the regional conference.</p> <p>The Board of Examiners (BOE) will determine the specific academic and church service requirements for each individual.</p> <p>*Requirements may vary by region and church/pastor.</p>