

Episcopal Church

Resources	Overview of Ordination Process & Requirements*	Coursework Required*
<p>Constitution & Canons, “Title III: Ministry” (see Canon 8: “Of the Ordination of Priests” starting on page 129) https://extranet.generalconvention.org/staff/files/download/23914</p> <p><u>Contacts:</u></p> <p>Rev. Canon Charles W. Simmons (csimmons@dioceseny.org) Canon for Ministry, Diocese of New York 1047 Amsterdam Avenue New York, NY 10025 (212) 316-7416</p> <p>Miguel Escobar (mescobar@uts.columbia.edu) Director of Anglican Studies, Union Theological Seminary</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As a baptized Episcopal member, the <i>aspirant</i> starts conversation with their parish (usually clergy, then parish committee), who will reflect and decide whether to recommend to the Diocese. 2. If recommended to Diocese by parish, the <i>aspirant's</i> file is reviewed by the Bishop, who will interview the aspirant after they are interviewed and recommended by a Commission on Ministry (or equivalent body). If approved to become a postulant, Bishop decides a training program in conversation with the postulant. 3. 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>. 4. General Ordination Examinations are usually taken in the last year of theological study. <p>* See your Diocese’s overview of the discernment process (i.e., for New York, visit: https://dioceseny.org/christian-life/ministry-office/discernment-for-ordination-as-a-priest/) and the <i>Constitution & Canons</i> for details.</p>	<p>Although required courses will vary by individual (as determined by Bishop), courses on Episcopal polity and canons are typically a minimum. Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is often required. It is also helpful to take classes on the Episcopal church history, liturgy, and in the following areas tested on the General Ordination Examination (GOE) (see http://www.episcopalgbec.org/):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scripture ● Church History including the Ecumenical Movement ● Christian Theology including Theology and Missiology ● Christian Ethics and Moral Theology ● Studies in Contemporary Society, including Racial and Minority Groups ● Liturgies and Church Music ● Theory and Practice of Ministry <p>The Diocese will also require candidates to complete its own training program in anti-racism, prevention of sexual misconduct in ministry, and the disciplinary canons (‘Title IV’) of the Episcopal Church.</p> <p>* Ordination requirements vary by bishop and diocese (usually based on individual needs). One year at an Episcopal seminary (following Union) is not an uncommon requirement.</p>