

GUIDANCE

CANDIDATING FOR ORDAINED MINISTRY 2024-2025

G.9

DATES AND DEADLINES FOR DOV1 AND DOV2

DOV = Discerning Ordained Vocation

Date	Element of the Process
January 1 to March 30 2024	Application form for DOV1 available on the website.
January to March 2024	Applicants are advised to start journaling if they have not already done so.
31 March 2024	Deadline for return of DOV1 application form (D1) with attached documents, and Equalities and Diversity Monitoring form (D2) and letter from church leader.
Before 10 May 2024	Meetings with accompanist beginning with setting up the Covenant (form D3) and leading to production of the agreed record (D4) which is sent by the accompanist to the candidates' office. The office send the D4 to the candidate's superintendent.
17-19 May 2024	Retreat for those discerning ordained vocation. This will be from Friday evening to Sunday lunchtime at Woodland Grange, Leamington Spa. Programme details will be provided.
20 May to 5 June 2024	Meetings with accompanist to reflect on retreat.



The **Methodist Church** 

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission

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Register charity no 1132208

6-8 June 2024	<p>Conversation of up to one hour with DOV1 Advisory Group by video conferencing leading to a guidance letter (D5). Each person will be sent the time of their conversation and the zoom link. If any of these three dates are impossible for you to attend, please email candidates@methodistchurch.org.uk to inform the office.</p> <p>The guidance letter is sent by the Advisory Group to the applicant and copied to the local minister, the Superintendent and the District Chair. It is not copied to the accompanist.</p>
June and July 2024	<p>Preparation for candidating – this may include shadowing experiences and starting work on the portfolio.</p>
June and September 2024	<p>Portfolio support groups are provided by the Learning Network. You can attend either the session in June 2024 or the same session repeated in September 2024. For details and to book your place please visit the Eventbrite page here: Candidates' Portfolio Support Eventbrite</p>
February to September 2024	<p>Application form for DOV2 available on the website (and associated forms). These should not be submitted until DOV1 is complete.</p>
September 2024	<p>Candidates meet with Superintendents to discuss and agree to the doctrinal standards, to uphold the discipline of the Methodist Church, and to accept the obligations to be at the disposal of the Conference for stationing.</p>
30 September 2024	<p>Deadline for return of DOV2 application form (C1), Local/Specific context application form (C2) and Superintendent's form (C3).</p>
September – November 2024	<p>Superintendents of candidates who are not local preachers or worship leaders appoint a mentor who is ready to provide intensive worship preparation experience if the candidate is recommended in February 2025.</p>
19 October 2024	<p>Candidates' Open Day at the Queen's Foundation. Please email knightk@queens.ac.uk between 1 July and 30 September 2024 for further details and to book a place.</p>

31 October 2024	<p>Deadline for references to be received from Circuit Leadership Team (C4), Employer (C5) and Critical Friend (C6). The Superintendent submits C4. C5 and C6 are requested by the Candidates' office but the candidate needs to ensure they are submitted by the deadline date. Please note that there is an opportunity on the C.1 application form to request that your employer is not contacted until after you have been recommended.</p>
October 2024	<p>The presentation topic and guidance will be sent to all candidates with details about the DOV2 Connexional committee. The presentation is given during the DOV2 committee in February 2025.</p>
October to November 2024	<p>Diaconal candidates meet the Warden and Deputy Warden of the Methodist Diaconal Order. Appointments will be made with diaconal candidates by the Order.</p>
October to November 2024	<p>Assessment of C2 applications. Candidates who have submitted a C.2 form will be informed of the outcome during this period.</p>
October to December 2024	<p>The Connexional Psychologist carries out resilience assessments.</p>
21 November 2024	<p>Deadline for submission of portfolio to candidates@methodistchurch.org.uk</p>
8 January 2025	<p>Advice from portfolio readers is sent to candidates and copied to Superintendents and District Chairs.</p>
31 January to 2 February and 3 to 5 February 2025	<p>DOV2 Connexional Committee for all candidates.</p> <p>Candidates will be invited to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EITHER 31 January to 2 February • OR 3-5 February. <p>The process starts at 1.30pm on the first day and ends after lunch on the third day. Exact timings and details will be sent to candidates.</p>
7 February 2025	<p>Candidates receive outcome letters. Recommended candidates receive the allocations form and Occupational Health questionnaire. Candidates who are not recommended are given information about the 'Where Now' retreat.</p>

February to March 2025	DBS check with barring is carried out for all recommended candidates. Occupational Health assessments are carried out for all recommended candidates. Details about these will be sent to recommended candidates.
March to April 2025	Any candidates for whom Occupational Health reports show concerns may be contacted for further conversation and decision.
February to July 2025	Recommended candidates prepare for training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading from provided booklist • Learning needs assessments where necessary and available • Worship leading and preaching practice where needed with the previously appointed mentor. They are also encouraged to follow the 'Worship Foundations' course.
March or April 2025	Appeals are held.
May or June 20	'Where Now' retreat for those who are not recommended. The date, venue and arrangements will be sent to those who need them.
16 to 19 May 2025	Allocations to training pathways. Allocations conversations with each recommended candidate take place on 16 and 17 May. The Allocations Committee meets to agree the allocated training pathways on 19 May. Recommended candidates are informed of their pathway soon after 19 May.
26 June to 3 July 2025	Recommendations are presented to the Methodist Conference and the Conference Diaconal Committee.
Late September 2025	Start of training and formation