

Anglican Ordination in the Diocese of Sydney

Inquiries should be addressed to Rob Smith in the Diocesan Department of Ministry Training and Development (RobSmith@ozemail.com.au or tel. 02 9265 1589). Requirements for Ordination to the Diaconate/Commissioning as Diocesan Lay Worker and conditions attached to bursaries from the Sydney Diocesan Ordination Training Fund are as follows.

1. The normal academic requirement for ordination/commissioning in the Diocese of Sydney is the completion of four years of study at the College normally resulting in the award of the Bachelor of Divinity.
2. Though a student who is admitted for training is admitted without guarantee of acceptance for ordination, bursaries from the funds available through the Sydney Diocesan Ordination Training Fund are given each year to students who are seriously contemplating ordination in the Diocese of Sydney. Such bursaries will be dependent on annual confirmation of a student's candidature by the Archbishop. The Archbishop's Ordination Chaplains interview candidates for ordination/commissioning at the end of each year.
3. Women students who do not wish to apply for ordination to the Diaconate may apply for a bursary to train for ministry in the Diocese of Sydney as a Diocesan Lay Worker. Applications in this category should be discussed with the Principal of Mary Andrews College who is also the Archdeacon for Women's Ministry. Most of the criteria applying to ordination candidates outlined in this section (1.9) also apply to women candidates in the 'unordained assistant' category.
4. Students who accept a Sydney Diocesan Bursary may receive it without obligation in their first year. If at the end of the first year, their diocesan candidature is confirmed they may continue to receive the diocesan bursary on the understanding that they will serve in the Diocese of Sydney after ordination/commissioning for a minimum of three years. If they withdraw from the Diocese they will be expected to refund bursaries received. Special arrangements can be negotiated with the Diocese in relation to repayment. In the event of students not being accepted for ordination/commissioning by the Archbishop of Sydney, they will not be required to refund bursaries already received.
5. Students who repeat a year through failure in their studies must do so at their own expense.
6. The Sydney Diocesan Bursary will only be granted to students who are episcopally confirmed and practising members of the Anglican Church of Australia or who are practising members of an Anglican Church with a firm intention of being confirmed.
7. Sydney Diocese Ordination Candidates who leave College before completing their course should advise the Archbishop's Ministry Chaplains.
8. Where candidates for ordination/commissioning in the Diocese of Sydney withdraw their candidature or leave College they should notify Ministry Training and Development. The Principal, the Registrar and the Dean of Students as well as the candidate's chaplain must also be notified of any change in candidature.
9. Students accepted as ordination candidates part way through their College course should inform the College Registrar in writing.
10. Candidates for Deacon's Orders are required by church law to present to the ordaining bishop a letter of testimonial from the College. This is normally arranged by the Principal after the final year examination results are available.
11. Students are advised to acquaint themselves early with the particulars to be completed before Ordination, as set out in the Diocesan Handbook and the brochure 'Full-time Paid Ministry in the Diocese of Sydney'. Any questions concerning these particulars should be addressed to the Diocesan Registrar. Candidates for ordination are advised that they must satisfy their respective Diocesan Bishop or his Ministry Chaplains, that they have no outstanding financial liabilities, either at Moore College or elsewhere.
12. Exiting ordination candidates are encouraged and expected, as far as possible, to restrict their planning for the following year to Term Three, perhaps extending into Winter and/or Spring break.