

Process for Entering the Ordained/Commissioned Ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church



1. **Candidates** must be baptised members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. They should consider the usual criteria for the Ordained Ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the British Union Conference. <[http://www.adventistinfo.org.uk/departments/ministerial/ CriteriaforMinistry27JAN11.pdf](http://www.adventistinfo.org.uk/departments/ministerial/CriteriaforMinistry27JAN11.pdf)>

2. **Candidates** should talk with, and obtain advice from, their local pastor about their call to ministry in the light of their involvement in the local congregation.

3. **Candidates** should arrange an appointment with their Conference/Mission President to discuss their call to ministry with a duly appointed panel.

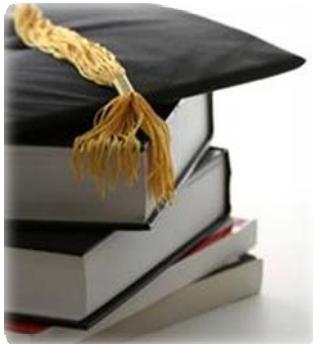
4. **Typically** the minimum educational requirement for ministry in the British Union Conference is a Masters degree in Theology or Ministry. This study is usually completed at Newbold College and includes the Masters degree (2 yrs), built on a Bachelors degree in theology (3 yrs) or a Graduate Diploma in Theology (1 yr) for those with an existing degree.



5. **Candidates** should obtain an application form for enrolling at Newbold College. <Hyperlink to Newbold website> All students who have been resident in the British Union for three years and members in regular standing of a Seventh-day Adventist Church in the British Union for a minimum of one year, prior to enrolment, will qualify for a grant of 25% of their fees at Newbold College.



6. **During** their undergraduate study at Newbold College, the candidates will be placed in a local Seventh-day Adventist Church, where they will work with the local pastor and obtain pastoral experience in a local church situation.



7. **During training** at Newbold College candidates will have the opportunity of meeting Conference/Mission officers on an annual basis. As they draw near to graduating with a Bachelors degree or their Graduate Diploma, they will have the opportunity of applying for an additional sponsorship grant for the Masters degree, totalling 75% of their fees at Newbold College. Interviews take place in February of each year. There are usually only 5 grants available each year, 10 grants in total covering the two year course. Candidates not receiving a sponsorship grant still qualify for the 25% grant.

8. **During their study** for the Masters degree they will have the opportunity of being interviewed by the Conference/Mission officers, with the view to employment by the church. Interviews take place in February. Candidates will be informed at a later date if their application for employment has been successful.



9. **Following** the successful completion of the degree programme and employment by a Conference or Mission within the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, candidates will commence a two-year internship programme. Intern pastors will be assigned to a pastoral district where their work will be supervised by the senior pastor and the Conference/Mission Administration. After twelve months interns may be relocated, and assigned to another senior pastor, to broaden their experience.



10. **After** the successful completion of internship the Conference or Mission Executive Committee will approve a change of status from Intern Pastor to Licensed Minister and usually assign candidates to a pastoral district of their own. Again, their work will be evaluated on a regular basis by the Conference/Mission and after approximately four years from the commencement of internship the candidate will be considered for ordination /commissioning. Examination of candidates for ordination/commissioning is conducted by ordained/commissioned ministers and then approved by the British Union Conference Executive Committee.

