

We are called to be a growing church, and we need more ministers so we can realise this. We are actively supporting dioceses to help them achieve lasting growth.

It is an ambitious goal, and the training of ordinands is central to it.

Hands holding service book open

Diocese of Chelmsford

## Finance for training

The previous way of paying for training was not ready to support the growth we want to see, so a new, more flexible, framework for resourcing ministerial education has been designed in consultation with dioceses and TEIs.

The new framework supports diocesan and national ministry strategies, incentivises sponsorship of younger candidates and offers clear links between training choices and financial implications. This is known as RME (Resourcing ministerial education).

With the flexibility and control the new system offers, dioceses are able to provide a solid foundation for training for ordination as we seek to grow vocations everywhere.

Take a look at the guidance below to find out more:

- [RME Handbook](#)
- [Financial support for ordinands in full-time training](#)
- [Supporting ordinands through initial training](#)
- [Guidance on Parental Leave Support](#)

[front cover of RME Handbook](#)

---

The following forms should be used:

- [Candidate formation plan](#)
- [Ordinand training pathways working sheet](#)

- [Confirmation of ordination training \(COT form\)](#)
- [Budget form for single ordinands in full-time training](#)
- [Family budget form for ordinands in full-time training](#)
- [Travel claim form](#)
- [Travel claim form for continuing students \(before 2017\)](#)
- [Transition contingency claim form 2020-21](#)
- [Block grant utilisation 2021-22](#)
- [Utilisation Notes 2021](#)

## Approved pathways

The final decision on a candidate's pathway is made by their bishop.

The block grant can only be used for approved pathways at accredited institutions. Where it is desired to use that funding for pathways which are not standard pathways at a recognised TEI this requires individual pathway approval – please contact the Initial Ministerial Education Pathways Adviser for these.

Some candidates, with the support of their bishop and DDO, may wish to study for a research degree as part of their initial training, for which the approval of the Research Degrees Panel is required. Guidance on applications to the RDP, the application form and general guidance on research degrees is in the documents below.

- [Guidance on Applications to the Research Degrees Panel](#)
- [Research degrees guidance](#)
- [Research degrees application form](#)

## Related

### Supporting candidates through selection

A guide to selection criteria and bishops' advisory panels for dioceses and advisers

## Training institutions

Policies, resources, and quality assurance for Theological Education Institutions.

---

**Source URL:** <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/diocesan-resources/ministry/supporting-ordinands-through-initial-training>