

Ecumenical Catholic Diocese of New England  
Process for receiving a candidate for ordination

1. Any qualified person may ask to be received by ECDNE as a candidate for ordination by initiating a conversation with an ordained member of the diocese
2. A person who wishes to apply to the Diocese to be received as a candidate for ordination as a presbyter should already have acquired or have a plan in place to acquire the following:
  - A graduate degree in theology or its equivalent
  - Completion of a CPE program or its equivalent
  - A letter of support or call from a faith community(If an applicant needs help in putting together an educational plan there are members of ECDNE who can offer guidance, however all costs involved are the responsibility of the applicant.)
3. The applicant shall provide to the Bishop of ECDNE:
  - A letter of request to be formally received into the Ecumenical Catholic Diocese of New England as a candidate for ordination
  - A CV or through resume
  - A brief auto biography that explains what brought the applicant to this point
  - Proof of educational background
  - Three letters of reference from ministries in which the applicant has been involved
  - A recently completed CORI check
4. Once the appropriate documentation has been received the applicant must be interviewed by at least two members of the Board of Directors; upon recommendation by those two Board members the applicant is to be invited to meet the whole board at its next meeting
5. If both the Board of Directors and the applicant wish to move forward, then a vote must be taken by the Board to formally receive the applicant as a candidate for ordination
6. Once received as a candidate for ordination a period of internship with an assigned mentor will be set up; this period may last from six to eighteen months
7. At the recommendation by the mentor and petition by the candidate the decision to ordain the candidate as a transitional deacon may be made by the bishop
8. The transitional diaconate must last for a period of at least six months, and may last for one year or more. At the recommendation of the mentor and with a letter of support from the faith community served by the deacon, the deacon may petition the bishop for ordination to the presbyterate.

PLEASE NOTE: There are many roads to ordination in the Church. This is especially true during this time of ecclesial transformation within the context of what has become known as the 'independent sacramental movement.' Applicants should be prepared to discuss why they feel that ECDNE is the best means for them to respond to their call to ordination. Applicants should also be aware that ECDNE believes that no one is called to ordination for their own sake, but for the sake of service to the Church.