

Policies for Admission as Nominee for Ordination, Diocese of Southwest Florida.

As approved by the Commission on Ministry January 18, 2008

1. A nominee must be a confirmed or received member of the Episcopal Church and a communicant member in good standing at a congregation or community of faith.
2. A nominee must have consulted with the minister in charge of the congregation or community of faith and not have made previous application in this or any other diocese in the last five years.
3. The standard of personal relationships shall be consistent with the norms of marriage found on page 422 of the Book of Common Prayer.
4. A nominee interested in the Vocational Diaconate must be able to serve the ministry needs of the Diocese with a minimum of five years of ordained ministry.
5. A nominee interested in the Priesthood must be able to serve the ministry needs of the Diocese with a minimum of ten years of ordained ministry.
6. A nominee interested in the Priesthood should be able to demonstrate the completion of an earned undergraduate bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.
7. After meeting requirements 1 through 7 listed above, nominees will be considered on a case by case basis by the Bishop in conjunction with the Commission on Ministry.

Additional Information:

- i) A Master of Divinity Degree (M.Div) from an accredited Episcopal seminary is considered the usual standard for ordination to the Priesthood in the Diocese of Southwest Florida.
- ii) The standard length of preparation for Ordination in the Diocese of Southwest Florida is from four to five years.
- iii) A nominee seeking recognition in the Episcopal Church of their ordination in another denomination, having met requirements 1 through 7 listed above, is subject to the procedures Title III, Canon 10 of the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America.
- iv) Where seminaries offer a Pass/Fail or Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading system as well as a Letter grading system, the Commission on Ministry requires Letter grades.