



*the*  
**Scottish  
Episcopal  
Institute**

(SEI)

Formation for  
ministry in  
the Scottish  
Episcopal Church

## Formation for ministry in the Scottish Episcopal Church

▲ The Scottish Episcopal Institute or SEI is the training agency of the Scottish Episcopal Church for authorised ministry. SEI is charged with training candidates for ordination and Lay Readership. The community averages 25 students in any one year.

From September 2016, SEI will embark on a series of new programmes for training with Common Awards.

Common Awards is a new scheme of academic awards validated by Durham University under the auspices of the Church of England, and SEI is proud to work alongside the C of E in ministerial training.

With Common Awards, SEI will offer a Diploma of Higher Education in Theology, Ministry and Mission to all who aspire to be priests, deacons or Lay Readers. In their modules, all candidates will encounter the breadth and depth of Biblical Studies, Christian Tradition, Ministry and Mission and Theological Reflection and Reflective Practice.

Furthermore, with Common Awards, SEI will also offer a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in Theology, Ministry and Mission. This degree is especially for curates heading to incumbencies, but it will be available to any clergy person or Lay Reader who is interested in continuing study.



SEI is in the process of developing four pathways by which candidates may attain their proper vocational training and education:

- ▲ **Part-time study** the pathway for the majority of ordinands and Lay Reader candidates. It may last from three to six years, leading to a Diploma or BA.
- ▲ **Full-time study** at an ancient Scottish University for ordinands, linked with SEI formational studies. This would be three years.
- ▲ **Mixed-mode training** for ordinands, where they are engaged as 'interns' in charges with ministerial teams, whilst studying part-time. This, too, would be three years.
- ▲ **Tailored study** for those who come with prior theological or ministerial awards, but are in need of vocational formation. This would take at least two years.

Studies with SEI are integrated with the other aspects of the candidates' formation. For example:

- ▲ **Attendance** at five residential weekends at which the community prays together, engages in Bible study, addresses topics of missional concern and grows in reflective practice.
- ▲ **Engagement** in Field Education placements – in congregational, chaplaincies and ecumenical or community settings – for several weeks each year.
- ▲ **Practice** in crafting and leading acts of worship, as well as in preaching and in facilitating small groups.
- ▲ **Experience** of cross-cultural contexts and retreats through attendance at an annual week-long residential training event.





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