

Local Ordained Ministry (LOM) Process Chart

1. LOM Enquiry

A person may sense a call to LOM within a congregation or within a presbytery and approach the relevant oversight group. See the Book of Order (BOO) 9.14 (2) & (3).

This person may make informal enquiries to the Ministry Settlement Board (MSB) Convenor, the Presbytery Candidate Convenor or the Dean of Studies at the Knox Centre for Ministry & Leadership (KCML). This might be to explore their sense of call, clarify training requirements and processes.

2. Ministry Settlement Board (MSB), Presbytery or other ministry context oversight body considers the LOM Option

One of these bodies discerns whether LOM is an option for this context.

See the Book of Order (BOO) 9.14 for the four ways a LOM may be called.

3. Candidate Convenor sends application forms to the Dean of Studies at KCML

The candidate applies to the Presbytery Candidate Convenor who request the Dean of Studies to make recommendations concerning theological foundation study requirements.

The application includes a letter from the congregation, or other ministry body, supporting the candidate's application (including a minuted decision of the church council).

4. Formal Assessment of Candidate

Presbytery Candidate Committee conducts an assessment and, if accepted, the candidate is referred to the National Assessment Workgroup (NAW) for national assessment.

5. Training Needs Analysis

Training agreement negotiated and drawn up by presbytery and the Dean of Studies, and the period of training/formation is established.

Presbytery appoints the Mentor/Training Enabler and the Supervisor.

6. Commissioning Service conducted with Presbytery involvement

Takes place in a regular worship service with Presbytery involvement.

The Candidate becomes a LOM Probationer.

7. LOM Probationer commences training/formation

Maintains close contact with Mentor/Training Enabler, Candidate Convenor & Dean of Studies.

Six-monthly reports written by the Mentor/Training Enabler are sent to the Candidate Convenor.

8. Final Integrative Exercise (FIE)

In the final year of training/formation, the LOM Probationer begins to write FIE with drafts sent to the Dean of Studies. When the FIE is considered complete, it is sent to Presbytery for assessment.

9. Presbytery Trial Service

Probationer conducts a worship service and is assessed by a presbytery representative.

10. Ordination by Presbytery

Following a positive assessment of these final exercises by presbytery, and a call being extended by the probationer's congregation, the probationer is ordained in a presbytery service.