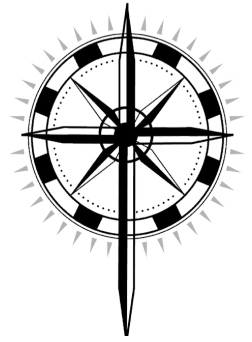


ORDINATION JOURNEY

Key Descriptions



1 DISCERNMENT & INTAKE PHASE

APPLY



The journey begins! Complete an **Ordination Application** & submit it to the ECO National Office. The Ordination Application consists of narrative questions, an endorsement from the session, resume, preliminary statement of faith & sense of call, & background check.

INTAKE INTERVIEW



The **Ordination Advisor & Presbytery Mentor** will meet with the candidate to go over all materials and extend the formal invitation to the appropriate retreat (**Retreat #1** or **Retreat #2**).

ACCEPTED



The candidate is **officially accepted** into the process & prepares to move forward on the path.

RETREAT #1



MAP YOUR JOURNEY



Retreat #1: Mapping Your Journey

- The candidate will focus on spiritual formation as primary to their life & ministry.
- The candidate will learn about ECO theology & vision.
- The candidate will map their ordination journey based on their wiring, competencies, ministry experiences, & their assessors' prayerful input.
- The candidate will emerge from Retreat #1 with a complete map for their growth & development phase to follow.

2 GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT PHASE

COMPLETE YOUR MAP



The candidate will take the time they need to **complete their map** which may include: seminary classes, ministry internships, mentor meetings, working on specific competencies, ordination exams, or recommended counseling.

READINESS ASSESSMENT



The candidate begins the **Theological Integration Interview** with a small committee of people who will **assess the candidate's readiness** for Retreat #2. The interview seeks to discern whether a candidate has a sound livable theology according to the *ECO Essential Tenets*. Candidates must pass this interview and then receive their invitation to Retreat #2.

3 FINAL ASSESSMENT & APPROVAL PHASE

RETREAT #2



FINAL ASSESSMENT



Retreat #2: Final Assessment & Recommendation

- The candidate will be **assessed for final recommendation** for ordination using a multifaceted approach looking at the whole person & their readiness for pastoral ministry.
- The candidate & a team of assessors will work together to **determine their outcome**: fully recommended, provisionally recommended, or not recommended.
- This retreat also focuses on how spiritual formation is central to their ministry, as well as helping candidates determine which type of call might be the best fit for them.

RECEIVE CALL & PRESBYTERY APPROVAL



Celebrate that God has been faithful & the candidate has been obedient to answer God's call! A **church calls the candidate**, who is now certified ready to receive a call to be their pastor! The **presbytery gives the candidate final approval** to qualify them as an ECO Pastor.