

DioCal Discernment, Formation, and Ordination Process Summary Chart

Inquirer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 year residency requirement before nomination • Regular meetings with clergyperson • Day of discernment & Time of discernment • Spiritual direction • Monthly LDC meetings, minimum of 6 months • Prepare and submit nomination package by June 1st
Nominee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of 18 months between date that nomination form is signed by the Inquirer and the date that the individual may be ordained • Prepare and submit postulancy package by July 31st • COM liaison is assigned after Postulancy application submitted. • LDC meetings and spiritual direction continue • Complete psych eval, behavioral screening, and background check after Postulancy paperwork submitted. • Attend vocations conference • Meet with Bishop
Postulant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicates with COM liaison at least monthly • Mid-postulancy interview if postulancy extends beyond a year • LDC meetings and spiritual direction continue • CPE: 300 hours for priesthood, 120 hours for vocational diaconate • First field ed • Begin trainings: they must be completed by end of candidacy • 2 years of required theological study or equivalent • Interviews with COM and Standing Committee for candidacy • Ember letters 4x yearly
Candidate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible to apply for candidacy w/ approval of LDC and clergy after having completed: 2 years theological study or its equivalent, one year field ed or part of intern year, CPE (note that this is a diocesan requirement, not canonical) • Finish theological education • Second year of field ed or intern year or supervised ministry • LDC meetings and spiritual direction continue • Spiritual formation group for candidates for vocational diaconate • Language requirement • Multicultural sensitivity, ethnic diversity, antiracism, sexual misconduct, and canons requirements • GOEs for priests • Mid-candidacy interview if needed • Prepare and submit ordination package and portfolio • Complete medical exam • Interview with COM and review by Standing Committee for ordination • Ember letters 4x yearly • Seek placement
Vocational Deacon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fresh start group • Clergy benefits • Diaconal placement in congregation recommended by archdeacons
Transitional Deacon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diaconal placement in congregation recommended by archdeacons • Ember letters 4x yearly • Liaison contact and spiritual direction continue • Diaconal placement in congregation recommended by archdeacons • Explore placement for priesthood • Prepare and submit ordination to the priesthood package
Priest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ordination to priesthood