

# Lutheran Education Australia

## **Accreditation for ministry (Am)**

### *Frequently asked questions*

- 1. What is the definition of ‘ministry personnel’ (i.e. who needs to be accredited?)**  
Ministry personnel include youth workers, chaplains, school pastors and may involve well-being and pastoral care staff -depending on their areas of responsibility. Regional formation leaders support schools and Early Childhood Services to determine the accreditation path for ministry personnel.
- 2. Will *Introduction to ministry in Lutheran education* be relevant and applicable to ministry roles?**  
*Introduction to ministry in Lutheran education* provides an orientation to mission and ministry in the context of Lutheran education. It was co-constructed with ministry personnel from schools, regional and LEA offices using suggestions from staff in Lutheran education. It is practical and involves ministry personnel in the kind of learning we anticipate is happening in Lutheran schools and ECS.
- 3. Would a Certificate IV in School Ministry be a better course to complete?**  
If ministry personnel would like to complete a Cert IV they are encouraged to do so. The intention of *Introduction to ministry in Lutheran education* is to provide a practical introduction to key policies and practices so that new ministry personnel are set up for success. *Introduction to ministry in Lutheran education* provides an orientation; it supports ministry personnel as they network with colleagues to learn and share key aspects of ministry and mission in the Lutheran education context.
- 4. What kind of qualification will be provided through the *Introduction to ministry in Lutheran education*?**  
*Connect* and *Introduction to ministry in Lutheran education* can be micro-credentialed into ALC and College of Divinity courses.
- 5. Could *Introduction to ministry in Lutheran education* be conducted earlier than Year 2?**  
Yes, *Connect* and *Introduction to ministry in Lutheran education* could be completed in the first year of employment.
- 6. Could *Introduction to ministry in Lutheran education* replace *Connect*? (Is there a crossover of content?)**  
No. *Connect* and *Introduction to ministry in Lutheran education* have different purposes and content.
- 7. Will all ministry personnel have to complete units at ALC?**  
The pathway to Accreditation for ministry (Am) considers prior learning and experience. Ongoing learning and possibly tertiary study may be options in relation to one’s role and responsibilities, which can be discussed as ministry personnel explore career pathways. Further study could be part of one’s career progression and discussions on needs-based professional learning. ALC provides access to a range of offerings through the College of Divinity (eg. ministry personnel seeking a counselling course could access one via Stirling College in Melbourne, to be cross-credited to a degree at ALC).
- 8. What ongoing learning could be provided for ministry personnel beyond *Connect* and *Introduction to ministry in Lutheran education*?**  
Ministry personnel have similar Accreditation currency expectations as classroom and school leaders. Current regional chaplain/ministry networking days and spiritual retreats can contribute to Accreditation currency.
- 9. How will the school or ECS support staff with the time and opportunity to attend *Introduction to ministry in Lutheran education*?**  
*Introduction to ministry in Lutheran education* is offered in similar ways to *Connect* and *Equip* where ministry personnel would be released for in-service days to complete the workshop. Part time staff could negotiate with their school around their attendance. It is expected that the workshop would be included in professional learning budgets for ministry personnel in their first years at a school or ECS.