

Lutheran Education Australia

Ministry personnel accreditation

Ministry personnel have a critical role in the mission and ministry of Lutheran education. Accreditation supports ministry personnel in developing their knowledge and understandings in education and Lutheran theology so that they may serve more effectively in their roles and contribution to Lutheran education. *Accreditation for ministry (Am)* status involves the following:

- Participation in, and completion of *Connect* which is designed to develop an understanding of Lutheran education and the theology that underpins it as well as their role and contribution. *Connect*: three-days and delivered over five sessions (Induction, Sessions 1-4) as well as the completion of an ePortfolio, and,
- Participation in, and completion of *Introduction to ministry in Lutheran education (chaplaincy/pastoral care/youth work)*, and
- Commencement of an agreed theological qualification from Australian Lutheran College (ALC) or equivalent that supports their role and responsibilities if required.

Ideally, they will have attained *Accreditation for ministry* in their first three years of employment in Lutheran education. Accreditation is renewable every five years. To maintain *Am* status they will be required to undertake 25 professional development hours over each five-year period. It is the responsibility of the school to support ministry personnel with maintaining accreditation and also ensuring that their professional learning plan supports ongoing growth in their role and responsibilities.

Theological qualifications

The following table provides an overview of the qualifications available through ALC. The table describes in general terms the typical areas of responsibility and the minimum qualifications. Ministry personnel with existing qualifications are encouraged to apply for [Recognition of equivalent learning \(REL\)](#) through Lutheran Education Australia. The theological study requirements are to be determined in collaboration with LEA, regional formation leaders, school leadership and the individual.

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Role	Responsibilities may include:	Theological qualifications available through ALC
Ministry that is supervised and may include youth workers, Christian pastoral support workers (CPSW)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wellbeing of students, families • support of interns • general pastoral care and counselling • community care 	Certificate IV in Christian Ministry & Theology (or equivalent)
Ministry that may involve responsibility and supervision of other ministry personnel and includes positions such as lay chaplain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wellbeing of students, families, staff • support and supervision of youth workers, interns, CPSW • leadership in worship and prayer • significant responsibility with pastoral care and counselling • liaise with local congregational pastor and members 	Diploma in Theology or Graduate Certificate in Theology from ALC (or equivalent) Greater responsibility: Advanced Diploma in Theology or Graduate Diploma in Theology from ALC (or equivalent)
Ministry that may involve responsibility and supervision of the ministry team and oversight of ministry within the school. This includes positions such as school pastor or senior lay chaplains.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wellbeing of students, families, staff • support and oversight of youth workers, interns, CPSW, lay chaplains • Word & sacrament ministry • significant responsibility with pastoral care and counselling of staff including the principal • liaise with local congregational pastor and members • membership of school executive team 	Bachelor of Theology or Bachelor of Ministry from ALC (or equivalent) Master of Theological Studies from ALC (or equivalent)

Document Controls

Prepared by: LEA

Policy ownership: BLEA

Approved publication: January 2023

Review date: December 2025