

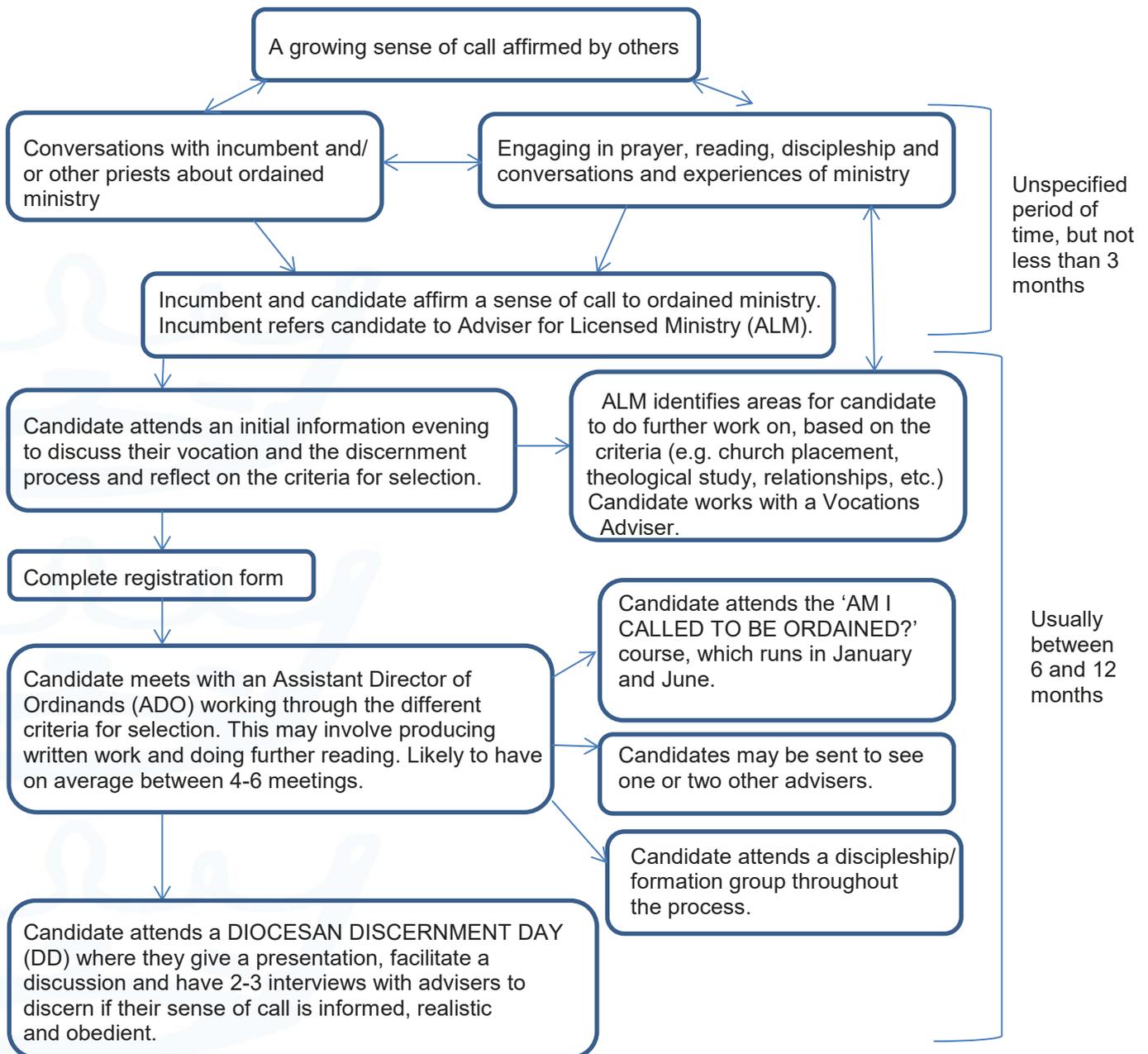


How to ...

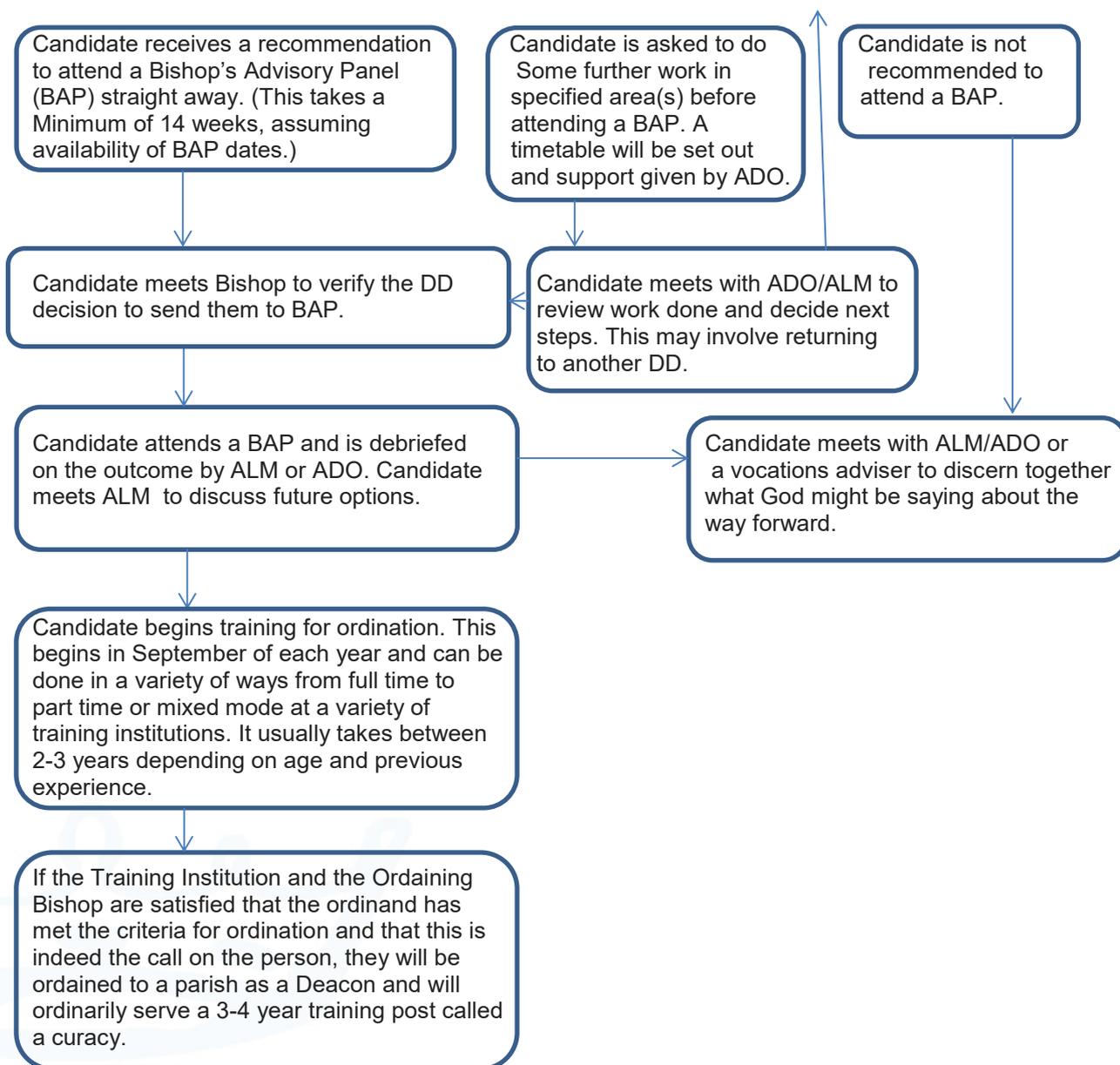
Become a Vicar

A Process for those exploring an ordained vocation

This document sets out a process for those wishing to pursue a call to ordained ministry. It gives an idea of the various stages of the process and some sense of possible times – which are only illustrative, someone’s vocations journey may take much longer. Whilst we are delighted when someone is exploring a call to ordained ministry and wish to fully support them in that process, please be aware that there is no guarantee at any stage of the process that someone will be ordained, or that they will be able to take up a curacy post in Bristol diocese, or indeed any diocese. The discernment process is only ever a recommendation to proceed to the next stage and the Bishop has the ultimate decision about who is ordained and where they will be licensed to serve.



Following a Discernment Day, a candidate is likely to receive one of three outcomes:



The Diocesan Adviser for Ministerial Vocation holds responsibility for overseeing the vocations discernment process. At the appropriate time in someone's journey, make contact with the Diocesan Ministry Development Team who will work with them through the process.

In the meantime, it might be useful to find out more.

Try some of these resources:

- 'The Life and Work of a Priest' by John Pritchard
 - 'The Contemplative Pastor' or 'Under the Unpredictable Plant' by Eugene Peterson
 - 'Called or Collared' by Francis Dewar
 - 'Courageous Leadership' by Bill Hybels
 - 'Making God possible: The task of Ordained Ministry' by Alan Billing
 - 'What Clergy Do' by Emma Percy
 - 'Hearing the Call: Stories of Young Vocation' by Jonathan Lawson and Gordon Mursell
- <http://vocation.churchofengland.org/> or www.callwaiting.org.uk