



Melbourne College of Divinity

Established by the Melbourne College of Divinity Act (Victoria) 1910.

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Regulation 6 – Master of Ministry (MMin)

6.1 - Interpretation

In this Regulation,

- 6.1.1 ‘The Board’ means ‘the Academic Board’ established as a committee of the College under Regulation 2.1.
- 6.1.2 ‘Supervisor’ means the person or persons appointed by the Board to supervise a candidate.

6.2 - Admission and Enrolment

- 6.2.1 Subject to the provisions of clauses 6.2.3 and 6.2.4, a person who has obtained, or is qualified to obtain, the Graduate Diploma in Ministry of the College may seek permission of the Board to enrol as a candidate for the degree of Master of Ministry.
- 6.2.2 The Board may recognise awards in appropriate disciplines of other tertiary institutions, or in exceptional cases certain levels of relevant professional attainment, for the purposes of enrolling in the Master of Ministry; upon such recognition, either in general terms or in relation to particular applications, the Board may proceed as if the applicant fell within the terms of Regulation 6.2.1.
- 6.2.3 Every enrolment is conditional upon the candidate having been involved in the practice of ministry for at least three years, to the satisfaction of the Board.
- 6.2.4 Without limiting its discretion in the matter, the Board may only grant permission to enrol if it is satisfied that the candidate will have adequate supervision, access to adequate libraries, and be able to participate fully in any Residential School and Collegium Group undertaken.
- 6.2.5 Where a candidate intends to undertake the Master of Ministry using flexible delivery arrangements, the Board must be satisfied as to the candidate’s capacity to fulfil the requirements of the degree through these arrangements.
- 6.2.6 Notwithstanding any other provision in these regulations, the Board may require any applicant to demonstrate their fitness for admission by carrying out such work and sitting for such examinations as the Board determines.
- 6.2.7 Unless the Board otherwise determines, the Master of Ministry must be completed in not less than one and not more than four years. Any extension of time is to be granted only on a certificate from the Adviser that the work is progressing satisfactorily.
- 6.2.8 The Board may discontinue the candidature of any person whom it deems to have made unsatisfactory progress.

6.3 - Course of Studies

- 6.3.1 Each candidate is to proceed on such terms and in conformity with such procedures as are determined from time to time by the Board, in addition to those specified in this Regulation. General determinations made by the Board are to be published by the Registrar; specific determinations applying to a particular candidate are to be communicated to him or her by the Registrar.
- 6.3.2 Candidates who have not included an approved unit on research methodology and theological reflection as part of their previous degree or demonstrated such ability in previous study, will be required to take such an approved unit or units in addition to the other requirements of this clause.
- 6.3.3 Normally, no credits towards, or exemptions from, the requirements of the degree will be granted on the basis of studies completed prior to enrolment.

6.3.4 *Theological Reflection*

Candidates are required to complete *two* of the following coursework units:

- a) One postgraduate unit in applied theology;
- b) One Collegium Group as prescribed by the Board;
- c) One Residential School as prescribed by the Board.

Candidates will only be permitted to proceed to research standing by the Board following written notification that the above requirements have been met, and when the name of a suitable Supervisor for the Supervised Research Project (who is willing to act) has been brought to the Board and approved.

6.3.5 *Research Planning*

Candidates are required to complete in sequence the following research planning, before being advanced by the Board to research status:

- 6.3.5.1 participation in a Final Research School, as prescribed by the Board. The School is to provide candidates with the opportunity to develop their proposed Supervised Research Projects for consideration by the approval panel, and to assist them reflect upon the theology and practice of ministry;
- 6.3.5.2 an interview with an approval panel consisting of the Director of Ministry Studies, the project Supervisor and one other qualified person, to assess the suitability and design of the proposed Supervised Research Project;
- 6.3.5.3 advancement of the candidate to research status by the Board, on the recommendation of the approval panel;
- 6.3.5.4 subsequent approval of the Supervised Research Project by the Human Research Ethics Committee of the College as established by Regulation 2.6.

6.3.6 *Supervised Research Project*

- 6.3.6.1 Each candidate must undertake a Supervised Research Project on a subject and of a kind approved by the Board.
- 6.3.6.2 The Board must arrange for the appropriate supervision of each Project.
- 6.3.6.3 Each Project must deal with one or more aspects of the practice of ministry, in relation to which the candidate must prepare a Report which gives evidence of systematic investigation, disciplined reflection and a capacity to think creatively.

6.3.6.4 The Report will normally be in written form of not more than 25,000 words, but the Board may agree to receive part or all of a Report in other than written form.

6.3.6.5 The Report is to be examined in accordance with Regulation 26.

6.4 - Award of Degree

6.4.1 Where the candidate has satisfied the examiners and completed the requirements for the Master of Ministry, the Board may recommend to the Council that the degree be awarded.

6.4.2 A candidate upon whom the degree of Master of Ministry has been conferred is entitled to use the letters 'MMin' as a suffix to their name.

[revised completely 24/11/2004; adjusted for 2005 Act November 30th 2005]