

PROCTORIAL ELECTIONS

Qualifications of candidates

1. A candidate must be an ordained priest or deacon who is one of the following:
 - a) a qualified elector (see paragraphs 3 and 4 below) in the diocese (excluding all assistant bishops);
 - b) a person who has written permission from the bishop to officiate in the diocese and who would be a qualified elector in the diocese if the person was a member of a deanery synod in the diocese (or in the diocese in Europe, a member of a deanery or archdeaconry synod, or in the diocese of Sodor and Man, a member of the diocesan synod).
 - c) a person qualified to vote in the Universities and TEIs constituency who:
 - i. would be qualified as a diocesan elector (see paragraphs 3 and 4 below) but for the fact that he or she is qualified to vote in that constituency,
 - ii. is beneficed in, or licensed to, any parish in the diocese or is licensed to serve as a vicar in a team ministry in any benefice in the diocese; and
 - iii. has chosen to stand in the diocesan election rather than in the election to the universities and TEIs constituency
2. A candidate must **not** be the holder of a paid office or employment to which one of the following central bodies may make or confirm an appointment:
 - the General Synod
 - the Convocations
 - the Church Commissioners (but a Church Commissioner in receipt of a salary or other emolument is not disqualified)
 - the Church of England Pensions Board
 - the Archbishops' Council
 - the Corporation of the Church House
3. A person is also disqualified if the person is included in a barred list under the [Safeguarding and Vulnerable Groups Act 2006](#) or the person has been convicted of an offence mentioned in [Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933](#).

Qualification of nominators

4. Nominators must be electors qualified as such at 6.00 a.m. on Tuesday 14th July 2026 (the date of dissolution of the 2021-2026 Convocations and General Synod). A bishop, priest or deacon is a qualified elector (subject to the exceptions in paragraph 4 below) if in one of the following categories:
 - a) assistant bishops in the diocese (but *not* members of the house of bishops of the diocesan synod);
 - b) archdeacons of the diocese;
 - c) beneficed clergy of the diocese;

- d) clergy holding office in a cathedral in the diocese (including residentiary canons and other cathedral clergy who are appointed to work at the cathedral but not non-residentiary/honorary canons);
- e) in the diocese of London and Oxford respectively: clergy holding office at Westminster Abbey and St George's Chapel, Windsor (but *not* the deans of those collegiate churches);
- f) clergy licensed under seal by the bishop of the diocese (including any clergy resident outside the diocese but holding licence of the bishop of that diocese); and
- g) clergy with permission to officiate who are members of a deanery synod of the diocese (in the diocese in Europe, of a deanery or archdeaconry synod; in the diocese of Sodor and Man, of the diocesan synod).

5. The following are *not* qualified electors:

- a) suffragan and other bishops who are members of the house of bishops of the diocesan synod;
- b) the dean of any cathedral in the diocese and the dean of Jersey and the dean of Guernsey;
- c) the dean of Westminster and the dean of St. George's Chapel, Windsor;
- d) Forces chaplains who participate in the election of representatives held by the Armed Forces Synod;
- e) the Chaplain-General of Prisons;
- f) electors in the universities and TEs constituency; and
- g) members of religious communities.