



The General Assembly in 1991 agreed to the issue of Certificates of Eligibility to ministers of other Churches so that they might be introduced to a pastorate in the URC and if called enter the list of Ministers of the URC. The issue of such certificates is the responsibility of the Accreditations Committee of the Ministries Committee.

The procedure for such a course of action shall be:

From time to time the Ministries Committee will decide on the number of certificates to be issued in any given year or period, as part of the responsibility to monitor minister numbers.

1. Initial enquiries from ministers of other churches shall be directed to the Secretary for Ministries who will send the Minister an application form.
2. On receipt of the completed form the Secretary for Ministries will;
  - a) ascertain the applicant is a minister in good standing with their own Church;
  - b) obtain other references;
  - c) confirm that the applicant's own Church is a member of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, the Council for World Mission or the World Communion of Reformed Churches;
  - d) confirm that previous training was equivalent to that required of Ministers of Word and Sacraments in the United Reformed Church;
  - e) confirm that the applicant understands the financial provision given by the URC.
  - f) ensure that non-European Economic Area applicants understand that they would need to qualify for a visa under the points based system, and that a specific level of English language skills would be required. [Currently equivalent to the Council of Europe level B2.]

4. If, by the deadline, the number of applicants meeting the above criteria exceeds the number of certificates available by more than twice the quota, a Certificates of Eligibility short-listing group will meet to short-list up to quota x2. The short-listing group consists of the three members of the Accreditations Committee, and the Secretary for Ministries.
5. The short-listed applicants will be interviewed in person for those based in the UK and by Lifesize or Zoom or similar for those based overseas.
6. The Accreditation Sub-Committee may then issue a Certificate of Eligibility.
7. Certificates of Eligibility are valid for three years. During that time, the Synod Moderators are able