



KNOX CENTRE  
FOR MINISTRY  
& LEADERSHIP

**PYM**  
presbyterian  
youth ministry

*Diploma in  
Presbyterian  
Youth Ministry*

# Vision

The vision of PYM is to make Jesus Christ known by:

- Teaching and nurturing people in Christian faith
- Loving service responding to human need
- Proclaiming the gospel
- Seeking to transform society
- Caring for God's creation

We aim to do this by growing Christ-centred youth ministries that:



Look IN

Encourage young people to grow in a Christ-centred faith in God

Look AROUND

Encourage young people to grow in Christ-centred communities

Look OUT

Encourage young people to grow Christ-centred mission hearts to serve



Presbyterian Church  
of Aotearoa New Zealand



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# Vision

# Welcome

Beginning the journey into youth ministry as a vocational calling is an exciting, rewarding, and challenging adventure. Our church desperately needs theologically trained, skilled, youth workers who are committed to professional development and who see their ministry in vocational terms. It is our hope and prayer that the Diploma in Presbyterian Youth Ministry will see a new wave and generation of such youth workers and ministers taking up positions of leadership in our church.

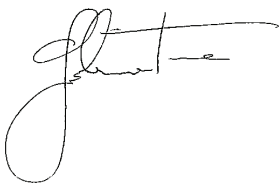
The Diploma in Presbyterian Youth Ministry is a collaboration between Presbyterian Youth Ministry (PYM), the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership (KCML), and the local churches, as well as the student's chosen academic institution - either Laidlaw College or Carey Baptist College.

The Diploma in Presbyterian Youth Ministry trains and develops leaders to be practical theologians in their work and ministry to and with young people and the wider faith community. The primary goal of the youth ministry internship is ministry formation and training in the context of supervised ministry experience.

The Diploma in Presbyterian Youth Ministry is a church-based award. It is a sign of the Presbyterian Church's commitment to youth ministry and the training of youth workers. More deeply it recognises the importance of having well-trained practical theologians dedicated to working with young people. This is why the Diploma sits within the context of a Ministry Degree.

For some the Diploma in Presbyterian Youth Ministry will be the beginning of a vocational pathway in youth ministry through to Nationally Ordained Ministry within the Presbyterian Church.

We hope you will join us.



**Carlton Johnstone**  
National Youth Ministry Development Leader, PCANZ



**Welcome**

## How it works

The Diploma in Presbyterian Youth Ministry is based on an internship model of learning.

The integration of theological learning and ministry context provides a richness that cannot be achieved in the classroom alone.

The Diploma in Presbyterian Youth Ministry is a PCANZ award that sits within a BMin at Laidlaw College or a BTheol (Applied) at Carey Baptist College. Students will need to apply and be accepted into either of these colleges as part of the criteria for gaining acceptance into the Diploma. The Diploma in Presbyterian Youth Ministry is made up of 240 credits, the first two years of a degree (360 credits).

Laidlaw BMin 360 credits

Three years full-time (or equivalent part-time)

Diploma in Presbyterian Youth Ministry 240 credits

Two years full-time (or equivalent part-time)

Carey BTheol Applied 360 credits

Three years full-time (or equivalent part-time)



*Details*

## Programme requirements at a glance

### Diploma in Presbyterian Youth Ministry

240 credits, two year internship (16 papers, each paper = 15 credits).

Biblical Studies	Theology	Youth Ministry Studies	Pastoral, Missional & Contextual Studies	Internship/ Fieldwork Papers
45 credits	45 credits	60 credits	45 credits	45 credits

Total credits 240

It includes four core papers focusing on youth culture, theology of youth ministry, ecclesiology (church and youth ministry), and pastoral care (of adolescents). Certain papers, such as Human Development and Family Life Ministry will have some assignments specifically focused on adolescents and youth ministry.

The diploma includes a Presbyterian Studies Paper offered by KCML staff which also counts towards the degree programme.

This paper explores:

- Who are we? The Reformed and Presbyterian story.
- How do we worship? Worship and preaching in the Reformed tradition.
- How do we work together? Mission, church and leadership in a Presbyterian context.

Laidlaw and Carey each have their specific requirements which are included in their prospectus and this application pack.

## Internship placement

You will need a local church in which to do your internship. This might be your current church. There are a number of Presbyterian churches around New Zealand willing to take on a youth ministry student intern. PYM can facilitate in finding you a placement church. The intern's church will sign a learning agreement between the student, PYM and KCML ensuring the priority of study and formation.

The internship will commence with an orientation weekend prior to the start of the first or second semester of each academic year at Laidlaw College and Carey Baptist College.

Approximately 10 -12 hours of the intern's time will be spent in supervised ministry, normally in the parish setting, and 28-30 hours of his or her time will be spent in structured distance learning and attending the occasional block course. Students will be part of their closest learning hub which will meet fortnightly to discuss readings, assignments, theological reflection on ministry experiences. There will also be teaching and input from experienced youth ministry practitioners.

## Cost

It is expected that the hosting church will cover the costs of the internship which is approximately \$6,500 per year. This includes course fees for either Laidlaw or Carey, block course attendance when required and cost associated with supervision and the learning hub.

# Application process

## Stage 1: Talk

It is more than likely that you have already begun this first stage in the application process of talking to significant others about your decision to train for youth ministry. Getting the opinion, advice, and support of others is a valuable part in confirming your sense of call into youth ministry.

- † Talk to your minister, youth leader, and session and gain their support
- † Talk with some friends who know you well
- † Talk to your regional youth coordinator (if your presbytery has one), and/or to national PYM staff

## Stage 2: Apply

There are a number of forms that need to be filled out that are part of this pack:

- † Application form for the Diploma in Presbyterian Youth Ministry (including your biographical essay)
- † Letter of support from your church and minister
- † Letter of reference

You will also need to fill in the application forms for your chosen provider; Laidlaw College or Carey Baptist College (these are also included in this pack). PYM can provide advice and support in filling out these application forms.

## Stage 3: Interview

Once your application has been completed and sent you will meet with the selection committee to discern your suitability for becoming a youth ministry intern student. The committee will be made up of the National Youth Ministry Development Leader, a representative from the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership, a regional youth coordinator or experienced youth leader within your presbytery, and a presbytery representative.

## Stage 4: Acceptance

The selection committee will make a recommendation as to whether you should be accepted as a youth ministry student intern. The committee will notify you in writing of their decision.

Your acceptance is dependent on meeting the requirements and being accepted into either Laidlaw or Carey's degree programme.



*To Apply*

# Diploma in Presbyterian Youth Ministry Application Form

● **Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

This form should be completed personally by the candidate and sent to:

Presbyterian Youth Ministry  
Carlton Johnstone  
PO Box 9049  
Wellington 6141

It should be accompanied by:

- a) A covering letter including names and contact information(home postal address, email & a/h phone) of two confidential referees.
- b) A one page account of your call to youth ministry in the Presbyterian Church.
- c) Your current curriculum vitae including your employment record, educational and training awards, and indications of experience relevant to your being considered for a youth ministry internship
- d) Statements about your suitability for youth ministry from your minister and Session Clerk / Parish Council Secretary.

## ● **Contact Details**

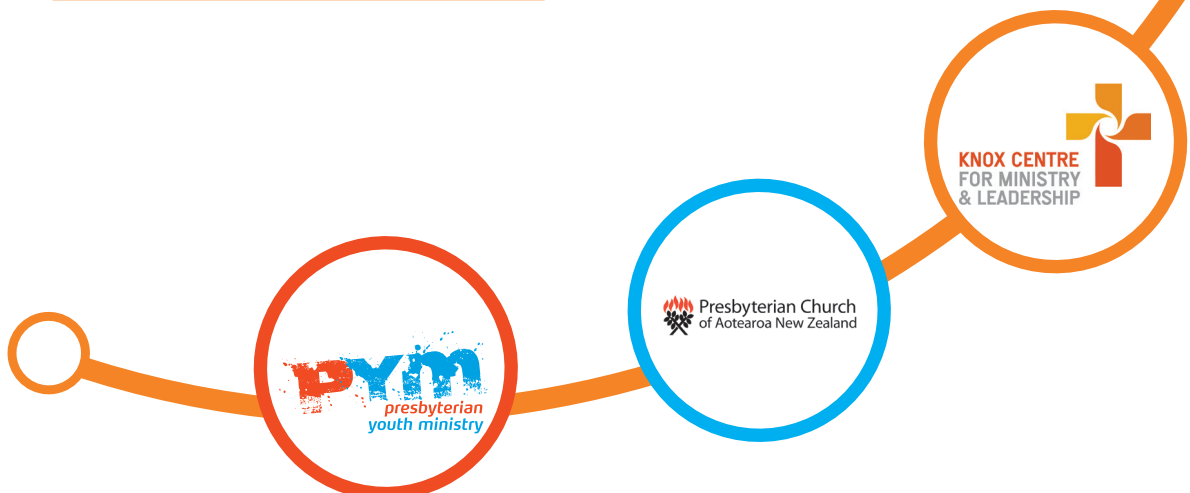
Full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tel. Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_ (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work)

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_



## ● Family

Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouses Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Children living at home, names and ages: \_\_\_\_\_

## ● Education

Qualifications and training: \_\_\_\_\_

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What subjects gave you most satisfaction? \_\_\_\_\_

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## ● Church Involvement

Where and when did you become an active member of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand? \_\_\_\_\_

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What do you consider to be your home parish? \_\_\_\_\_

How are you involved in your congregation at the present time? \_\_\_\_\_

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## ● Skills, Abilities and Youth Work

What do you and others consider to be your skills and abilities relevant to youth ministry leadership? \_\_\_\_\_

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Briefly outline the youth work you have been involved in: \_\_\_\_\_

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## ● Christian Faith

Briefly (500 words or less) describe your Christian faith journey. \_\_\_\_\_

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## ● Leisure

What hobbies, sports or other interests do you have? \_\_\_\_\_

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## ● Cross-Cultural Experience

What experience have you had of a culture or cultures other than your own? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## ● Check List

A covering letter including names and contact information (home postal address, email & phone) of two confidential referees.

A one page account of your call to youth ministry in the Presbyterian Church.

Your current curriculum vitae including your employment record, educational and training awards, and indications of experience relevant to your being considered for a youth ministry internship.

Statements about your suitability for youth ministry from your minister and Session Clerk / Parish Council Secretary.

Completed application forms for either Laidlaw or Carey.

## ● Declaration

I understand that the Youth Ministry Assessment Group, in fulfilling its obligations, may consult the nominated referees or any other person, and I hereby grant them permission to do so.

I have / have not (delete one) been convicted in a court, either in New Zealand or elsewhere, of an offence carrying a maximum penalty of a fine of \$1000 or more, or where the offence carries a penalty of imprisonment for whatever period?

If you have, please give further information in your covering letter.

I give permission for a police check.

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the statements made in this application are true in every respect.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If there is any other information that you consider relevant to your application, or further details you wish to expand, please include these in your covering letter.