

Fact Sheet

- Coverage:** Primary lay educational programme in the US Episcopal Church
Primary lay educational programme in the Canadian Episcopal Church
Strongly used in New Zealand and Australia
Growing during the past 10 years in the UK
Has a small presence in Europe
- Cost:** £200 weekend residential to train mentors or to provide ongoing training
£165 a year for the ongoing training of those who are 'active' mentors
£195 annual registration fee for basic students or
- Mentors:** Attend weekend accreditation process
Are responsible for group maintenance and administration
Have to undertake regular training to remain accredited
Are provided with an annual grant of £25 to support group expenses
Paid £55 per annum for each registered student
- Groups:** 6 - 12 students in any group - ecumenical diversity encouraged
Meet 36 (2.5 hrs) sessions a year
Each student leads regularly worship
Theological Reflection is central to the life of a group
Students discuss their week's study and support one another's learning
- Course:** Year 1 Old Testament
Year 2 New Testament
Year 3 Church History
Year 4 Theological choices - ethics and doctrine
- Uniqueness:** A four source theological reflection model is practised in the group
Spiritual awareness and development encouraged
An openness to hear differing theological views is encouraged
Learning is both individual and seminar based
Provides a rigorous and extensive programme of theological study
Provides choice - student can study one specific year, they can choose to seek academic accreditation or they can just enjoy learning!
Students are encouraged to discern their ministry in the world and in the church - ideal for vocational development.
- Oversight:** EfM UK Trustees oversee this non-profit making charity
A Management Group organises the day to day running
Trainers oversee the standards of mentoring skills
- Benefits:** No ongoing financial cost to a Diocese
Quality adult education from a proven provider
A means to develop lay ministry and discipleship
Ideally the programme works when ecumenical and across traditions