

Independent Ministry Training Award

The Awards

The WEST-FIEC Independent Ministry Training Award provides for two men from FIEC affiliated churches to have their course fees and accommodation costs fully covered whilst studying at WEST.

The successful candidate for The BA/BD Honours Degree Award will undertake full-time, campus-based study over three years.

The successful candidate for The Binary Course Award will already possess a good honours degree in a non-theological subject, and have perhaps completed a training programme like Prepared for Service, the Cornhill Training Course or Porterbrook Seminary. He would typically have benefited from a church apprenticeship scheme and attendance at FIEC's The Hub Conference. The Binary Course lasts two years, and leads to a Graduate Diploma and an MA Theology in Contemporary Church Leadership.

Financial Provision

The value of the two awards is as follows:

The BA/BD Honours Degree Award (3 years) will cover the course fee and the WEST residential charge.

The Binary Course Award (2 years) will cover the first year course fee and residential charge, together with the second year course fee and 6 weeks' residential charge.

No other costs are covered by the awards. The accommodation provision is for one person, although a married man and his wife – without children – might be accommodated on site. Married couples with children will need to rent accommodation locally at their own expense.

The Church Training Element

A key aspect of these awards is to create a strong link with the sending church and, wherever possible, give them ownership of some practical training. The aim is to forge a training partnership between WEST, FIEC and the local church.

The BA/BD Honours Degree Award requires that the successful applicant will work in either his home church or another approved FIEC church for approximately four months when he is not at WEST (allowing one month's holiday provision in the year). The applicant and his sponsoring church will need to outline in their application what this will entail, how it will be delivered and who will be the 'lead trainer' locally.

There is plenty of scope here for a wide variety of ministry and mission outlets.

The Binary Course Award already has this church-based element inherent in its structure, especially in the second year, which will be largely spent in the placement (normally the sending) church.

How to Apply

If you wish to apply, please go to the WEST website (www.west.org.uk) and the Application section. When completing the form for either the BA/BD or Binary Course, please make sure that you tick the Independent Ministry Training Award box. Please remember that applicants must come from FIEC affiliated churches and be committed to Independent church ministry after formal training.

When you have completed and submitted your application please immediately send an email to the Principal of WEST (principal@west.org.uk) and Trevor Archer of FIEC (trevor@fiec.org.uk) registering your application.

Interview Process

The deadline for completed applications is 14th May. Successful candidates will be called for interview early in June and notified by the middle of that month.