



**Churches
of Christ**

Building Communities
of Hope & Compassion



ACCELERATE

LEADERSHIP

2025

Empowering Churches and Agencies to Develop Leaders



ABOUT

Our desire is to make disciples and to see them developed according to their unique gifts and calling by engaging in a partnership that empowers churches and agencies to develop leaders through a Leadership program.

Accelerate Leadership is designed to allow the Affiliate and the Participant to shape a personalised leadership pathway through coaching and ministry placement in your local church or agency. To enhance growth, we provide the opportunity to be part of a cohort that allows for input from other experienced ministers and the scope to develop supportive peer relationships across churches. We therefore help to shape leaders rather than supply them.

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PROGRAM:	Accelerate Leadership: Leading Others
Description	For those who desire to be equipped as a disciple-maker, minister, shaper of community, and mobiliser of mission.
Current Role	Leader of a team
Service	Minimum of 8 hours' service per week as a team member with a church or agency.
Coaching	Meet with assigned coach for minimum of 8 times for at least an hour on each occasion, progressively work through the coaching manual and complete the Attributes PG 1-4 and MT 1-8.
Supervisor	It is recommended that you also meet with a Supervisor at least 4 times throughout the year (preferably not within your local church community).
Commitment	Regularly attend one weekend service in a CCVT church and maintain a devotional habit of prayer and Bible reading.
Requirements	Attend Intensives as outlined by CCVT.
Ongoing	Option to work towards Accreditation/Endorsement as per CCVT Policy.

Time Commitment

Local church/agency:

- Minimum of 8 hours' service per week
- Regularly attend one weekend service in a CCVT church
- Meet regularly with your Coach (appointed by your local church)

Intensives:

Come together with your Accelerate Cohort to learn key skills from ministers who will impart their experience through teaching, workshopping, and personalised prayer and ministry.



Accelerate Leadership: Leading Others

January 23 7pm-8.30pm	January 24 9am-4pm	March 29 9am-4pm	June 28 9am-4pm	August 23 9am-4pm	October 11 9am-4pm
Orientation (Zoom)	You are a Disciple Maker	You are a Mission Mobiliser	You are a Minister	You are a Community Shaper	You are a Peace Maker
	Attributes: PG2, MT 3&4	Attributes: PG1, MT 5&6	Attributes: PG3, MT2 & MT8	Attributes: PG4, MT1 & MT7	Attributes: MT15

Who is Involved?

Participant – participant in Accelerate Leadership, serving in the local church, whether or not in a paid role.

Coach – acts on behalf of the church/agency and directly supports the learning and placement of the Participant. Coaching specifically focuses on developing and optimising the qualities needed to be an effective leader and involves an accountability relationship with an experienced ministry practitioner for the purpose of growing leadership effectiveness.

Mentor / Supervisor – someone found by the Participant (preferably not within the church/agency) who additionally supports and challenges the Participant in their personal journey. This is different to the coaching role in focusing on ministry practices and their relationship to the Participant’s personal growth, processing, and development.

Program Coordinator – a member of CCVT who supports both the Participant and the church/agency as you do this journey together.



Learning Development Plan

As part of Accelerate Leadership, you will demonstrate a commitment to ongoing leadership and ministry growth via a learning plan tailored for you. This will complement your coaching, placement, and intensives.

This can include a series of professional development options but is best provided via tertiary studies with:

- Australian College of Ministries (ACOM) – acom.edu.au
- An alternative College course approved by CCVT.

For those seeking full Endorsed ministry with CCVT, this will be an important part of the process and may offer a more efficient pathway to completion. Endorsed ministry requires two components, both study *and* training, even if already accredited with CCVT. Training involved must satisfy the requirements of CCVT's Accreditation and Endorsement Policy. Accreditation gives permission to be in ministry but Endorsement gives full recognition and formation. No minister is permitted to remain permanently Accredited without pursuing Endorsement.

Accelerate Accredited *(optional)*

The partnership between Churches of Christ Vic/Tas (CCVT) and the Australian College of Ministries (ACOM) allows Accelerate participants to complete two units of study and earn credit towards a Diploma of Ministry. This training pathway is provided in partnership with the Australian College of Ministries (ACOM). ACOM is a Member Institute of the Sydney College of Divinity (SCD) – an Australian University College who offer internationally recognised higher education awards.



Your participation in Accelerate offers a practical, ministry-focused entry point into an accredited study pathway. Students completing the ACOM/Accelerate pathway must complete all of the requirements of Accelerate as well as the requirements of ACOM's units.

Note that Accelerate tasks contribute significantly to the completion of ACOM's subjects, however there will be some additional tasks and assessments required. ACOM's additional tasks are intended to help you to grow as a disciple, as a leader, and assist you to get more out of your Accelerate experience.

Any Accelerate 2025 participants should complete their application by 28 January 2025, including emailing Rod Clements via rclements@acom.edu.au to advise if you wish to enrol.

Students may also wish to complete more than the 8 units of the Diploma of Ministry and keep going and have a full Bachelor of Ministry or Theology.

Although the program is designed to be completed concurrently with the Accelerate course, it is possible for someone who has already completed their Accelerate program to enrol with ACOM and commence their studies afterwards, or for them to enrol in non-Accelerate ACOM units first and then complete the Accelerate program.

Financial Support

CCVT is committed to empowering churches to develop leaders. Therefore, the cost of participating in Accelerate Leadership is covered by CCVT (Intensives). CCVT will subsidise costs of Ministry Boosters, Summit and travel for those from regional areas or Tasmania. Affiliates are encouraged to provide a gift or payment for participants where possible.



Agreements

The Participant agrees to:

- Abide by the CCVT Code of Conduct and the requirements of this program.

The Affiliate and the Coach agree to:

- Appoint a Coach to guide the Participant and help them grow.
- Meet with the Participant for a minimum of 8 sessions for the year.
- Formulate a position description for the Participant so that they are meaningfully involved in ministry (8 hours per week).
- Supervise, support, and empower your Participant in their weekly responsibilities.
- Ensure the Participant is accountable to the values and policies of the church/agency.
- Assist the Participant to set healthy boundaries with work, ministry, and rest.
- Welcome the Participant as a genuine part of the team so they can make an effective contribution.
- Liaise with the Program Coordinator as necessary with feedback, concerns, or questions.

The Mentor/Supervisor agrees to:

- Meet quarterly with the Participant and support them in their personal growth and development (in conjunction with CCVT policy requirements for those who are accredited ministers).
- Liaise with the Program Coordinator as necessary with feedback, concerns, or questions.

The Program Coordinator agrees to:

- Facilitate Accelerate Leadership, including the application process and the Intensives.
- Communicate expectations with the church and Coach at commencement.
- Provide support, information, and training as needed for Participants and Coaches (and Mentors/Supervisors).
- Certify the Participant's completion of the program.



Completion

When you graduate from the program, you will receive a certificate based on:

- Completing the required number of training sessions.
- Maintaining the affirmation of your local church/agency and an associated leadership role*.
- Completing a minimum of 8 coaching sessions in the year.
- Abiding by the CCVT Code of Conduct agreed to at commencement.
- Maintaining progress in an approved learning development plan.

**Ministry employment is not essential for completion, but a minimum of 8 hours' service must be maintained, not inclusive of one weekend church service which is compulsory. Church/agency affirmation is also required in relation to local character and policy expectations.*

Note: This program requires completion of all elements, noting that training must follow the requirements of CCVT's Accreditation and Endorsement Policy for those pursuing ordained ministry with CCVT. Ministers must be Accredited with CCVT as a minimum, but are then required to pursue Endorsement which will necessitate completing the required training as well as all coaching attributes before then engaging in a ministry discernment process.

Completion of CCVT's Accelerate program is not a guarantee of Accreditation or Endorsement, or of the local church's affirmation of either. It is also not a guarantee of an ongoing role, whether as an employed or a volunteer leader or assistant.

Ongoing participation in the Accelerate program requires the support of the relevant local CCVT church along with that of any CCVT agency which might be involved. While CCVT reserves the right to end participation in the program immediately, and without any compensation, for failure to meet any program requirements, participation will also end immediately in the event that local church or agency support is not maintained.