

Degree of Bachelor of Divinity (B.D.)

Guidance for Candidates

This guidance should be read in conjunction with the [Regulations for the B.D. Degree](#).

The University of Cambridge may award the B.D. Degree to a graduate of the University who is eligible to apply for the Degree and who has provided proof of a significant contribution to the knowledge of one or more of the subjects listed in Regulation 1 of the Degree.

The B.D. Degree of the University of Cambridge is senior to the University's Ph.D. Degree, and the standard required is well above the minimum required for the Ph.D. Degree. The B.D. can form a stepping-stone to the D.D. which represents sustained achievement at an international level and is the highest degree awarded by the University in the subject.

Applications for the Degree may take one of three forms:

- a) one or more published works;
- b) a thesis specially composed for the purpose;
- c) a combination of the above.

A candidate may submit for a B.D. a dissertation for which a Ph.D. has already been awarded, but in such a case the Degree Committee normally expect that substantial additional work will also be submitted.

Candidates whose applications are based wholly or in part on published works should note that a work is regarded as published only if it is traceable in ordinary catalogues and if it is obtainable at the time of application, or was obtainable at some previous time, by members of the general public through normal trade channels. Proofs of papers yet to be published are not submissible.

It should be noted that the following are not submissible: references to works, whether published or unpublished, of which copies are not submitted; reviews of the candidate's; notes by the candidate commenting on his/her works; or a *curriculum vitae*.

If a candidate wishes to discuss a proposed application before formal

submission, this may be done informally with a person of suitable standing in the Faculty of Divinity who might be known to the candidate personally. Alternatively, informal advice may be sought from the Secretary of the Degree Committee

A candidate is required by the Regulations to submit **two copies** of each work unless by special permission of the Degree Committee it has been agreed that only one copy may be submitted. The works should be accompanied by (i) two copies of a list of the works submitted, (ii) the fee (cheque made payable to The University of Cambridge) and (iii) the declaration to which Regulation 4 refers. The evidence in support of the application must be confined to the works submitted.

The attention of candidates whose application consists in whole or in part of a thesis is drawn to Regulations 7, 11 and 12.

Candidates should note that consideration of an application for the B.D. Degree may take as long as a year and, possibly, longer.

It is suggested that candidates, particularly those applying from overseas, send their material by registered mail so as to ensure that they have a formal record of its despatch.