

Vision International College



**Diploma of Christian
Ministry and Theology,
emphasis
Pastoral Supervision**

Pastoral Supervision

Supervision means to “see beyond”. Supervision is where you can talk about your work and, through that process, see beyond the obvious and known aspects of your ministry to gain insight, discover new approaches, make adjustments, and gain encouragement.

Dr Michael Paterson views the story of Jesus’ interaction with the disciples on the road to Emmaus in Luke 24:13-35 as the best example in the bible of the role and work of supervision.

After Jesus spends time with the disciples, *‘their hearts are warmed and their eyes are opened’*, they have gained fresh insight. They then returned to where they had come from with renewed passion and energy for the ministry to which they were called, to share the gospel of their living Saviour, Jesus.

What is Pastoral Supervision?

We could define pastoral supervision as ‘a relationship between two or more disciples of Christ who meet and consider the ministry of one or more of them in a considered and deliberate fashion.’ This sort of relationship allows each person being supervised to discuss their work, explore their responses, and review whilst developing further resources, skills, and strategies.

Supervision, by definition, is a reflective, supporting relationship.

One of the most helpful ways to view supervision is that of a professional athlete and a personal trainer.

The athlete is a professional in their field, gifted, skilled, and working to better themselves. The personal trainer may also be an experienced athlete, but their specialty is focused on increasing the development and effectiveness of others. The pro-athlete comes to the trainer to reflect on their abilities, skills, health, and development. The athlete’s accomplishments are their own, and what they get from the trainer is commensurate with what they want from the relationship.

Who Needs Pastoral Supervision?

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse concluded that all people in religious or pastoral ministry, including leader pastors, ministry directors, and lay elders, engage in professional supervision with a qualified supervisor with some degree of separation from the institution they minister.

Recommendation 16.45 *Consistent with Child Safe Standard 5, each religious institution should ensure that all people in religious or pastoral ministry, including religious leaders, have professional supervision with a trained professional or pastoral supervisor who has a degree of independence from the institution within which the person is in ministry.*

Note Child Safe Standard 5 reads... “*People working with children are suitable and supported.*”

Beyond their recommendation, professional supervision has been a part of many professions, including nearly all the ‘caring’ professions, for almost fifty years. It is a helpful, functional, developed form of support. This support is often lacking or not fully functional within Church or para-church ministry environments.

Each ministry worker, from the kid’s ministry director to the lead pastor, should engage in supervision as often as they can, but at least twice per year.

Many religious denominations and groups have made it a mandatory requirement due to changes in legislation since the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. As a result, all pastors are answerable to a qualified supervisor regardless of their role.

Who better to be a pastoral supervisor than those pastors who come from the coalface of ministry?

Who can better understand pastors’ trials and issues than an experienced and qualified man or woman of God in a Pastoral supervision role?

To this end, Vision Colleges has introduced the Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology emphasis on Pastoral Supervision.

There are two options for Pastors.

Pastoral Supervision Option 1.

Complete the four **Mandatory Elective** units and receive an academic transcript for the units. This option will satisfy the legal requirements of a Pastoral Supervisor. It is the best option for those with a Diploma or above in ministry or theology.

There is an option to upgrade to a full Diploma by Academic transfer if the candidate holds a diploma or above in biblical studies and or already has the mandatory units.

Pastoral Supervision Option 2.

Complete the full Diploma Course, including the four mandatory units and six theology units. This will attract a full Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology emphasis on Pastoral Supervision.

There is an option for academic transfer if the **candidate** holds a diploma or above in Biblical Studies **or already holds the mandatory units.**

Diploma of Pastoral Supervision Course

The course can be completed in one year as a distance education study program; the time frame is a guide only depending on the candidates' capacity and their circumstances for study.

The course includes a broad range of challenging, faith-building, and biblically-based studies relevant to personal, pastoral, church, and community life. Students will learn to apply biblical principles to their daily lives and explain and share those Christian truths with others.

Specific Christian counselling units have been nominated relevant to the Theology units of the course. However, candidates may select substitute units and tailor the program to meet their ministry needs.

The Diploma is also a pre-requisite for the “Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology” or the Bachelor’s Completion with Vision Colleges.

Work placements

Candidates should be in a pastoral role in their local church or similar situation. They will be required to document their work experience for each unit to provide evidence of competencies.

The Diploma of Pastoral Supervision Is For.

As a general guide, the **Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology** emphasis on **Pastoral Supervision** is a requirement for those in Pastoral Ministry or seeking the role of a Pastoral Supervisor and may be a required qualification for ordained ministry.

It is suited for those who;

- Are engaged in church or Christian work and service as a pastor..
- Are seeking ministry qualifications.
- Require ordination qualifications.
- Seek involvement as a Pastoral Supervisor.

The Pastoral Supervision Units

The Theology units for the **Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology – 10743NAT**, develop a sound understanding and depth of biblical knowledge. The course will strengthen the candidates' Christian life and ability to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Diploma is an advanced level of study. It requires significant research in the word of God and other disciplines to satisfy the assignments. The mandatory units meet the requirements for Pastoral Supervisor.

The candidate will complete the following

4 Mandatory units to satisfy the Pastoral Supervision.

6 Theology units from the counselling stream of Vision Colleges

The units are listed as “Theology Units” and Mandatory Units.



Mandatory Units

1. CHCPAS002 Provide pastoral and spiritual care
2. CHCMHS001 Work with people with mental health issues
3. CHCCSM014 Provide case management supervision
4. CHCPRP007 Work within a clinical supervision framework

Units one and two are completed through our “Online Training Portal”. The online portal provides access to a comprehensive and interactive learning and training experience, ensuring that all technical and legislative issues are addressed. The assignments both teach and assess competency in the units.

Access and instructions are provided as candidates enter each unit.

Candidates will complete units three and four offline. We are advised that these units will be available online, but we do not have a time frame. Until the online version is available, Vision College will provide all study information and instructions to complete the units.

Theology Units

Due to the nature of this course, we have nominated six of our counselling units to meet the requirements of the theology units. Candidates may request alternative topics provided they fulfil the unit requirements. The decision of the Principal on the substitution request is final.

On Belay (Intro to counselling)

Crisis Counselling

Marriage and Family Life

Shades of Grey - Ethics in Leadership

Dazzling Secrets for Despondent Saints

Journey Into Wholeness

Students are provided with a textbook, assignments and instructions to complete the unit satisfactorily.

Subject Fees

Since Vision Colleges began in 1985, our heart has been to provide affordable quality bible college material to students enabling more students to study the word of God.

We are a distance education specialist. We do not have large salaries to pay lecturers, no vast campus to sustain, no onsite library and few government fees to meet. Our fees reflect our needs while meeting yours. You do not need expensive student loans, as you can pay as you go.

These fees are much less than our regular Diploma fee because we see the cost of this imposition of regulation on the ministry as difficult for many to meet. We want to be here to help while we pay our bills too.

Enrolment fee: \$85.00 **Subject:** \$200.00 each

Mandatory Subjects:

The candidate must select at least one unit at enrolment. They can be completed in any order but cannot be substituted. The units are completed by distance education through the Vision International College online portal or offline studies. Vision Colleges will provide access and instructions. A 5% discount is offered if all four units are paid for together.

Core Subjects:

Although one of the mandatory units must be ordered with enrolment, the core units can be taken later. They can be taken in any order and may be substituted from the Vision Colleges' range of units to tailor the study program to suit the student's needs. Academic transfers may be available for formal Bible College studies at a Diploma level.

A 5% discount will apply if all six units are ordered together.

If all mandatory and core units are purchased simultaneously, a 10% discount will apply.

To enrol go to <https://visioncolleges.edu.au> look for "enrolment" then from the dropdown menu "Pastoral Supervision" then "Enrol Now" or try this link [Enrol Now](#)

Vision International College



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