

# Candidate Assessment

Southdown offers Candidate Assessments for persons considering entry into priesthood or religious life. Since 1985, Southdown's assessment service has assisted vocation and formation directors, as well as the leadership of dioceses and religious congregations, to learn about their candidates' ability to minister, to live in community, and to relate meaningfully with others. The assessments have also been an effective tool for formators as they assist the candidates in their development throughout the formation process.

Our comprehensive Candidate Assessment serves to underscore aspects of mature development and provide confidential feedback to both the individual and the diocese or community. The assessment offers insight pertaining to one's strengths and areas of growth and can assist the individual as well as his or her leadership in the formation journey.

Because of the potential to learn about one's gifts and one's areas of challenge, each candidate profits from the opportunity to participate in a thorough Candidate Assessment. This initial assessment serves as a baseline which allows for planning and monitoring the development of the candidate in these formation years. We also offer the opportunity to follow the initial assessment with a second stage assessment to be performed at a point after the candidate has had an opportunity for engagement in the institute's or seminary's formation program.

## Candidate Assessment includes:

- Standard psychological tests and interview with a psychologist
- Vocational and spiritual life assessment interview with a spiritual director
- Health history and review with nursing staff
- Individual feedback session with psychologist
- Completion of standard psychological instruments
- Joint feedback session, including the candidate, psychologist, and designated diocesan or community representative
- Written report, shared with both the candidate and designated diocesan or community representative

Absolutely no information is released to anyone without the specific written consent of the individual assessed. Ordinarily, assessees arrive on a Sunday afternoon and are free to leave after the second feedback session that typically takes place on Thursday afternoon. All candidates are housed in comfortable, private rooms at Southdown for the duration of their assessment. Eucharist is available and considered an important component of Southdown community life.



For additional information, to discuss individual needs or concerns, or to schedule an appointment, please call us at **905 727 4214** or e-mail [administration@southdown.on.ca](mailto:administration@southdown.on.ca)