



JOB of the Week



Job name: Religious Leader

Job description: Religious Leader or faith leaders offer spiritual and moral guidance and lead public worship and other religious ceremonies.

Tasks you will undertake in the job: As a Religious Leader, your day-to-day duties will depend on your faith. You may:

- pray and study your religion
- encourage commitment to the faith
- lead regular religious services or ceremonies
- conduct services and ceremonies for religious festivals, holy days and events such as births, marriages and deaths
- explain the meaning of your faith's teachings
- educate people who are converting to your faith
- support people at difficult times in their lives
- represent your faith within the community
- be a role model for your followers and meet representatives of other faiths and communities
- fundraise and do administrative tasks

Skills and knowledge you'll need:

- knowledge of philosophy and religion
- sensitivity and understanding
- customer service skills
- leadership skills
- the ability to work well with others
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- the ability to use your initiative
- knowledge of teaching and the ability to design courses
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device

Skills required for this job (core competencies):

Communication	Resilience	Organisation	Teamwork
Problem Solving	Initiative	Creativity	Digital literacy

Where Religious Leaders work:

You could work in an office, from home, in a prison, in a place of worship or in an NHS or private hospital. Your working environment may be emotionally demanding and you'll travel often. You may need to wear a uniform.

Salary: Religious Leaders can expect to earn approximately £28 000 a year (often with a housing allowance); some are 'self-supporting' and receive no pay.



Working hours: You'll typically work a 37 – 40 hour week, though working hours and workloads may vary. Religious Leaders can work in the evenings, at the weekend and often on Bank Holidays depending on the event and usually plan their own hours.

Qualifications to become a Religious Leader: You can get into this job through: a university course / an apprenticeship / applying directly

University: You may need a degree or postgraduate award for some leadership positions. Most subjects are accepted though Theology and Philosophy may be particularly useful. Entry requirements: You'll usually need: 2 to 3 A levels, or equivalent, for a degree; a degree in any subject for a postgraduate course

Apprenticeship: You could do a church minister degree apprenticeship, if you want to train to be a religious leader within the Christian tradition.

Direct Application

The process of becoming a leader can take several years, and is often based on your knowledge, experience and position within the religion.

Each religion has a different way of training its leaders, so the training and the length of time it takes will vary.

For many religions the process might include:

- study at a college or religious training centre; intensive study of your faith's teachings and writings
- time alone in contemplation or meditation
- experience of working with people in the community
- mentoring and supervision from an experienced leader of your religion; In some religions, there are rules on who can become a leader and what duties they can carry out.
- **If you want to train to become a leader in your faith, the first thing you should do is ask your own religious leader for advice and guidance.**

Important to note (and progression within the career):

Becoming a religious leader is a serious commitment that can be seen as a calling as much as a career. As well as a strong belief in your faith and its traditions, you should accept that the work will affect all aspects of your life. Every religion or faith is structured differently, and career progression will vary from faith to faith. You may be recommended for higher positions by senior members of your faith, or you have to apply for vacant posts. There may be opportunities to become involved in teaching, counselling, interfaith relations, writing, or humanitarian and charity work, there are also opportunities to work as a chaplain in the armed forces.

www.icould.com

www.successatschool.org

www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk

www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors

www.ucas.com/careers-advice

www.kudos/casaid.co.uk/#/ (you all have a log on for this service)

www.careersbox.co.uk (careers videos)

Helpful sites for careers information
GAT careers links

<http://airhead.io/public/launchpads/XqbuOMJgb0OfqvMPCykZA>

