



The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

4 East University Parkway
Baltimore, Maryland 21218

Application for Discerning Ordained Vocation

Note: The following application should be submitted to Dawn M. Kline for Discerning Ordained Vocation at the above address or by email to dkline@episcopalmaryland.org by July 1. DOV is a program of exploration and preparation required before application to postulancy for either Diaconate or Priesthood. *Please also note that the Canons of the Church require that clergy retire at the age of 72. Having at least two years of active service following ordination is optimal.*

Near the end of the EBM discernment year, your parish may nominate you in writing for ordination to the Diaconate or Priesthood. They will use DOV Form One.

After nomination by rectors and vestries, submission of this application, completion of EBM, psychological and physical exams, background checks, and interviews with the Bishop and the Commission on Ministry, those interested in discerning whether to accept their parish nomination, enter Discerning Ordained Vocation (DOV). DOV meets from September through January and includes an assigned parish internship and a social ministry internship. People in DOV work with a peer cohort and mentor team that includes a lay person, priest, deacon, and a lay committee in their internship parish.

Date: _____

Entering DOV for ordination to the diaconate priesthood

Full name (last) _____ (first) _____ (middle) _____

Home address _____

Cell _____ Email _____

Work address _____

Position _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Fax _____

Date of birth _____ Place _____

(Check one): Single _____ Married _____ Divorced _____ Widowed _____

If married spouse's name _____

Parish or mission _____ Date joined _____

Name of rector/ vicar _____

Are you a pledging member of your parish? Yes _____ No _____

Name of spiritual director: _____

Date of baptism _____ Location _____

Date of confirmation or reception _____ Location _____

By whom were you confirmed or received? _____

If not already done so, please attach supporting documents for baptism and confirmation or reception.

Have you completed Safe Church and Anti-racism trainings? Yes _____ No _____

Please attach certificates if they are not already in your file at the diocese.

History of church membership (Please attach names of the congregations, denominations, & dates of membership).

Have you previously made an application for postulancy or been nominated in another diocese? _____ No _____ Yes _____ (If yes, include a statement of the details.)

Ministries served in churches and community service (Please attach details about your ministries, locations, & approximate dates).

Please submit an essay doubled spaced on each of the following topics. **Please date and sign each essay:**

- A spiritual autobiography, reflecting your spiritual journey to this day. As a framework for the essay you may want to address the following: your first awareness of spirituality in your life; your spiritual guides, mentors, and heroes/heroines; significant events and life experiences in your journey, both negative and positive, and how they have played a part in your spiritual development. (5-7 pages)

- If the following is not included in your spiritual autobiography, please continue to explain how your spiritual journey has unfolded and developed in the Episcopal Church. It would be important to include something about being a member of an Episcopal parish and your participation in the ministry of all the baptized. How have you used your gifts to develop your Rule of Life? A Rule of Life includes a regular pattern of prayer, worship, stewardship, study, and outreach. (3-4 pages)

- Please state your perception of the ministry to which you feel called. Is it priesthood, diaconate, or a particular ministry? (1-2 pages)

- Why are you now applying to this interview process? This essay should be no more than one page. (1 page)

- Your social history. Please submit a résumé citing your name, address, contact information, date of birth, spouse or partner, children, education, employment history, and use of social media. Please include either official or unofficial transcripts from the place of highest education.

Please also attach to this application:

- Letter of nomination from your home congregations' rector or vicar.
- DOV Form One signed by your rector or vicar and the vestry.
- JPEG photo of yourself for our records.

All applications and required material for this process must be at the Diocesan Center no later than July 1 preceding your intended start of the program in September. The cost of this program is \$1800.00 payable in full by September 1 and EfM is an additional \$350. Your sponsoring congregation is expected to assist with these costs.

Signature of applicant and date:

Signature of rector/vicar and date:
