



COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

FORM I: NOMINEE AGREEMENT

DEFINITION OF TERMS

- I. *Ordination process*: the whole series of steps provided by the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church as defined and applied by the Episcopal Church in Delaware which, all requirements being satisfied, may lead to the ordination of an individual to the Sacred Orders of Priest and/or Deacon. In summary, these steps may be grouped under four headings:
 - a. *Aspirancy* is the period between being permitted by the bishop to discern, up until the acceptance of the nomination by one's home parish. During this time the discerner is called an aspirant.
 - b. *Nomination* covers the time beginning with a letter from the individual to the bishop accepting his/her/their nomination by the congregation, continuing up until the time that the individual is admitted to postulancy by the bishop. During this stage, the discerner is called a nominee.
 - c. *Postulancy* covers the period from admission to postulancy up until the time the individual is admitted to candidacy by the bishop, upon the favorable recommendation of the Commission on Ministry and approval of the standing committee. One is called a postulant.
 - d. *Candidacy* covers the period from admission to candidacy to ordination by the bishop upon the favorable recommendation of the Commission on Ministry and approval of the standing committee. One is called a candidate
- II. *Ordination*: The sacramental conferral of authority on an individual by the bishop, under the Book of Common Prayer, to carry out the ministry of the Church consistent with this Church's understanding of the specific Order to which he or she is ordained.
- III. *Cure*: The ecclesiastical position to which an ordained person is called, and for which the ordained person is authorized by the bishop to carry out the ministry belonging to his or her Order.

FAITH AND DISCIPLINE

Anyone wishing to pursue ordination in the Episcopal Church in Delaware is required to agree with and abide by the historic faith and practice of the Anglican/Episcopal tradition as found in the Book of Common Prayer (1979), and conform to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of The Episcopal Church.



COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

FORM I | 2 of 3

FINANCIAL AID AND DIOCESAN SERVICE

Tuition grants are subject to the availability of funds and the bishop's approval. In return for this investment in our seminarians and their formation, for any who have accepted significant diocesan funds, we require additional years of service in the Episcopal Church in Delaware *beyond* an expected minimum of two years following ordination. Any seminarian that has received diocesan financial aid for seminary tuition paid agrees to serve an additional year, for a total of three years. If you are successful in the ordination process and the Episcopal Church in Delaware is unable to provide you with a full-time position after seminary, you will be canonically released and given a waiver of this pledge by the bishop. Otherwise, failure to meet the required period of service will cause the diocesan grant to be treated instead as a loan, which will become repayable in whole or in part upon terms determined by the bishop.

AGREEMENT

I, the undersigned, do hereby acknowledge the foregoing definitions and agree to the following:

1. That I understand that permission to enter the ordination process in the Episcopal Church in Delaware does not carry with it an assurance that I will be ordained, or that I have any claim to be appointed to a cure.
2. That, as a condition of being admitted to the ordination process, should I be ordained by the bishop, I agree to serve in any full-time position in the Episcopal Church in Delaware to which the bishop appoints and/or authorizes me to serve; and that in any case, I shall be bound to serve within the Episcopal Church in Delaware for at least two years unless given a waiver of this pledge by the bishop of the Episcopal Church in Delaware. If I have received financial aid from the diocese to cover seminary expenses, I agree to add one year of service to the minimum of two (2) years as outlined above in Financial Aid and Diocesan Service.
3. That I acknowledge and understand that, in the event, I become a candidate for Holy Orders, I will not be ordained without a cure. Further,
4. I have read, understood, and acceded to the policy concerning sexual misconduct.
5. I pledge that, if married, I will live within the covenant of marriage.
6. I understand that failure to live by these standards will result in my removal from the ordination process.



COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

FORM I | 3 of 3

Submitted by:

Signature of Applicant

Printed Name of Applicant

Date

Witnessed by:

Signature of Witness

Printed Name of Witness

Date

Completed original forms should be submitted to:

The Episcopal Church in Delaware
Attention: Executive Assistant to the Bishop
913 Wilson Road
Wilmington, DE 19803
(302) 256.0374 | www.delaware.church

Copies scanned/sent/emailed to Chair, Commission on Ministry, com@delaware.church