

Episcopal Diocese of Maryland: Archdeacon for Deacon Formation Position Description

The Archdeacon for Deacon Formation is appointed by the Bishop to assist him/her in the formation and training of Deacon postulants and the mentoring and continuing education required of active Deacons, to equip them for the performance of servant ministry within and outside of the body of the church.

The Qualifications of the Archdeacon for Deacon Formation should include:

- An Ordained Vocational Deacon
- A Minimum of 5 years successful experience in Diaconal Ministry in the Diocese of Maryland
- An understanding of the Canons as they apply to vocational deacons
- Demonstrated experience in working collaboratively to further Diaconal Ministry
- An established record of respect and trust from the Bishops, other clergy and laity of the diocese
- Experience in discernment, formation and education programs
- A willingness to serve a 5 year term as the Archdeacon for Deacon Formation

The responsibilities of the Archdeacon for Deacon Formation include:

- Working with the Bishop and The Archdeacon for Deacon Deployment to define training, continuing education and mentoring requirements for Deacon postulants in formation and after ordination
- Supervising the Deacon Training Team
- Serving on the Deacon Council
- Interacting with other dioceses concerning Deacon Formation
- Interacting with Parishes/Missions within the Diocese concerning Deacon Formation and recruitment
- Assessing the needs of the Formation, Mentoring and Continuing Education Programs for Deacons
- Participating in long term planning for the Diaconate with the Bishop and the Archdeacon for Deacon Deployment
- Overseeing continuing education for Deacons
- Assisting in Coordination with the Archdeacon for Deacon Deployment and the Deacon Council of the Annual Deacon's Retreat with the Bishop
- Implementing and coordinating a program for Deacon visits to Parishes with no assigned Deacons to increase interest in the Diaconate
- Conducting conflict interventions with Deacon postulants as needed
- Acting as liaison between the Bishop, The Archdeacon for Deacon Deployment and Deacon postulants
- Meeting periodically with the Bishop and the Archdeacon for Deacon Deployment and the Commission on Ministry as requested to discuss Deacon formation, mentoring and continuing education
- Exploring Parishes and other potential ministries for diaconal assignments with the Archdeacon for Deacon Deployment
- Representing the Bishop at the Service of Institution of Deacons in Parishes when necessary
- Coordinating in Deacon ordination preparation
- Assisting at the Cathedral or other Parishes/Missions as requested by the Bishop.
- Participating in an annual Ministry review with the Bishop and the Deacon Council