

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**CERTIFICATE OF SUPPORT FOR CANDIDATE TO THE DIACONATE**

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To the Bishop of New Hampshire:

We, whose names appear below, believe, based on personal knowledge or on evidence satisfactory to us, that

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*Print name clearly*

is a confirmed adult communicant in good standing of this congregation and we hereby nominate N. as a Candidate for the Vocational Diaconate.

We declare that, in our opinion, this person evidences gifts and fitness for admission as a candidate. We will continue to be faithful in providing prayer, opportunities for ministry and financial support during this period of candidacy.

Signature of members of the Vestry/Bishop's Committee: *(two-thirds majority must sign)*

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**Attestation**

I hereby certify that the foregoing certificate was signed at a meeting of the Vestry/Bishop's Committee of *(name of congregation and location)* \_\_\_\_\_  
duly convened at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the year \_\_\_\_\_,  
and that the names attached are those of all *(or a 2/3rds majority of all)* of the members of the Vestry/Bishop's Committee.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ *(Clerk of the Vestry/Committee)*

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ *(Member of the Clergy)*

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**APPLICATION FOR CANDIDACY TO THE DIACONATE**

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To the Bishop of New Hampshire,

I, \_\_\_\_\_, (full name) request to be made a

Candidate for the Vocational Diaconate. I was made a postulant on: \_\_\_\_\_

(date). I have remained faithful in worship, prayer and Spiritual Direction and I have had regular contact with my COM liaison. I have communicated with the Bishop during Ember Days, four times per year. I include the following in my application for Candidacy:

**Application Checklist**

- ☐ Certificate of support for candidacy from Vestry and Clergy
- ☐ CPE reflection from Postulant (if applicable)
- ☐ Essay on the Oath of Conformity
- ☐ Evaluation to date from Diaconal Formation requested: \_\_\_\_\_ (date).
- ☐ Field Education site: \_\_\_\_\_ (church name, location)
- ☐ Postulant has reimbursed diocese for Diaconal Formation tuition
- ☐ Congregation has reimbursed diocese for Diaconal Formation tuition

***Please note:***

A postulant will normally apply for Candidacy half-way through Diaconal Formation. The application for candidacy must be completed, and all supporting documentation submitted, in order to receive an invitation to be interviewed by the Commission on Ministry (at their discretion) and the Standing Committee (required) to assess formational progress and readiness. The application and essay will be shared with both the COM and the Standing Committee.

**Essay on the Oath of Conformity:**

Please attach an essay reflection on your readiness to make the declaration required by Article VIII of the Constitution, the Oath of Conformity:

*“I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; I do solemnly engage to confirm to the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of the Episcopal Church.”*

The candidate may be expected to reflect further on this essay in the candidacy interview with the Standing Committee.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_