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ORTHODOX CHURCH in AMERICA

Diaconal Vocations Program Admittance Application



I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Name _____
LAST FIRST: BAPTIZED (GIVEN) MIDDLE

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Citizenship _____ If naturalized USA or Canadian citizen, please give date and court of
naturalization _____

Please attach to this application copies of the following documents. Information regarding several of these areas will be asked in the following sections. If you cannot provide any of the requested documents, please provide an explanation on a separate paper.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birth Certificate | <input type="checkbox"/> Marriage Certificate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baptismal Certificate | <input type="checkbox"/> Wife's Baptismal Certificate (if married) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chrismation Certificate (if different/separate from baptism) | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Baptismal Certificates |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A list of parish memberships and parish pastors throughout your lifetime with dates of membership and names of pastors. Include your current parish membership and rector's name | <input type="checkbox"/> Military Discharge (if applicable) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sealed records/transcripts of college and graduate education | <input type="checkbox"/> Certificates of Ordinations (if applicable, from non-Orthodox denominations) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Resume of work experience (minimum last ten years) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Record of health examination completed within the last year signed by your doctor |

Please have the following letters of recommendation included in this application or sent in separately:

- ☐ Your parish priest
- ☐ Your father confessor (if different from your parish priest)
- ☐ Your immediate past parish pastor (if your present parish membership is less than three years)
- ☐ A layperson within your present parish
- ☐ One other person of your choosing who has known you for more than five years
- ☐ (Optional) A person within another non-Orthodox church to which you have belonged

Please include a brief personal history of your life within the Church. In particular, describe what leads you now to apply to the DVP and any aspirations you may have for an eventual vocation or ordination within the Church.

II. EDUCATION

SCHOOL NAME:

YEARS ATTENDED

DEGREE RECEIVED

Undergraduate _____

Undergraduate _____

Post-Graduate _____

Theological _____

Languages (indicate primary) _____

V. HEALTH

Do you have any physical disability or illness which might prevent you from working or fulfilling your diaconal duties within the Church? Yes ☐ No ☐ If "Yes", please describe on a separate page

Are you currently taking medications regularly? Yes ☐ No ☐ If "Yes", please name the medication(s)

Do you have a history of chemical abuse? Yes ☐ No ☐ If "Yes", please describe on a separate page

Do you have a history of psychological/mental illness? Yes ☐ No ☐ If "Yes", please describe on a separate page

III. MARITAL STATUS

MARRIED ☐

CELIBATE ☐

DIVORCED ☐

WIDOWED ☐

MONASTIC ☐

If married, is you're your first marriage? Yes ☐ No ☐

Have you ever contracted a civil marriage? Yes ☐ No ☐ If "Yes", explain below:

If divorced, explain:

Wife's name _____ Is this her first marriage? Yes ☐ No ☐ If "No", explain below:

Wife's birth date _____ Place _____

IV. MILITARY STATUS

Have you ever served in the Armed Forces? Yes ☐ No ☐

Present classification _____

Country _____ Branch _____ Years _____

Rank _____ Discharged _____

VI. EMPLOYMENT AND PERSONAL HISTORY

NB: The resume included with the application should also note any and all professional certifications and associations you have or belong to.

Have you ever been detained, held, indicted, or summoned into court as a defendant in a proceeding? Yes ☐ No ☐
If “Yes”, list the nature of the offense or violation, the name and location of the court or place of hearing, and the penalty imposed or other disposition of each case on a separate page.

Have you ever failed a criminal background check? Yes ☐ No ☐ If “Yes”, explain on a separate page.

Are you now, or ever been, a member of any Masonic or secret organization? Yes ☐ No ☐ If “Yes”, explain on a separate page.

VII. ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY

If you have been ordained to any type of clerical orders (priest, pastor, minister, etc.) please fill in the appropriate blanks below.

Diaconate (date) _____ / _____ / _____ Place _____

Bishop / Superior _____

Jurisdiction _____

Assignment _____

Priesthood / Pastor (date) _____ / _____ / _____ Place _____

Bishop / Superior _____

Jurisdiction _____

Assignment _____

Monastic Vows (date) _____ / _____ / _____ Place _____

Ecclesiastical Rank(s) _____

Monastery _____

“Lesser” orders (date) _____ / _____ / _____ Place _____

Ecclesiastical Rank(s) _____

Have you ever been deposed from clerical orders? Yes ☐ No ☐ If “Yes”, explain on a separate page

Have you ever been suspended from clerical orders? Yes ☐ No ☐ If “Yes”, explain on a separate page

Have you ever transferred from one jurisdiction/denomination to another? Yes ☐ No ☐ If “Yes”, please explain the circumstances and reasons for each transfer on a separate page.

Have you ever held any offices (including teaching positions) within the Church? Yes ☐ No ☐

Office _____ Date _____ Place _____

Office _____ Date _____ Place _____

Office _____ Date _____ Place _____

Office _____ Date _____ Place _____

What position(s) do you presently hold within your parish? _____

VIII. ADDITIONAL UNDERSTANDINGS AND AGREEMENTS

I understand and accept that my enrollment in and/or graduation from the DVP in no way implies or guarantees that I will eventually be ordained to any rank in the Orthodox Church in America. The discretion to ordain lies solely within the competence of the Hierarchs of the Church.

Your signature: _____

I understand and accept that, if I am ordained a Deacon, there is no guarantee that I will be assigned to my present parish or that I will always remain assigned to my present parish. My well-being, the well-being of my parish, and/or the well-being of the Church may dictate that I serve elsewhere. The responsibility to assign clergy rests with the Bishop.

Your signature: _____

I understand and accept that ordination to the rank of Deacon in the Orthodox Church precludes the possibility of marriage after ordination.

Your signature: _____

I understand and accept that, if I am ordained a Deacon through the DVP Program, I may not be eligible for subsequent ordination to the Priesthood. My education and training may not be considered adequate for Priestly formation and ministry, and if I desire Priestly ordination, I must apply to an Orthodox seminary or reapply to the DVP and fulfill all the requirements necessary for Priestly ordination as my hierarch instructs me to do.

Your signature: _____

I understand and accept that serving as a Deacon in a parish of the Orthodox Church in America may not be a paid position, and that I am offering my services to the Church and to my local parish *gratis*. I am not seeking ordination for any financial consideration whatsoever.

Your signature: _____

I understand and accept that, if I petition the Bishop for ordination, I will be expected to submit to and abide by all the “*Policies, Standards, and Procedures of the Orthodox Church in America on Sexual Misconduct.*” I shall be expected to review the document, provide personal character references, submit to a criminal background check, and fulfill any other requirements as may be deemed appropriate to meet the mandate of the “*Policies, Standards, and Procedures.*”

Your signature: _____

Your Priest’s signature: _____

There is a one time *non-refundable* registration fee of \$300.00 required to enter the program. This should be submitted, along with the completed application, to the Director in the form of a check or money order may payable to *The Orthodox Church in America*.

I certify that all the information submitted in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature _____

Date _____

➔ Please return this application and all required and requested documents – and direct any and all questions regarding this application or the documents required – to:

Diaconal Vocations Program
The Orthodox Church in America
P.O. Box 31409
Alexandria VA 22310-9998
dvp@oca.org