

**Urban Residents Program  
Diocese of Massachusetts  
Prospective Urban Resident's Application**

**Overview**

The Urban Residents Program of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts deploys newly ordained clergy in congregations committed to vital ministry and mission in the city.

The program seeks to address two urgent needs:

**\* The need to infuse creative energy and leadership into our city parishes.**

Urban Residents will help to stimulate growth and missional vitality in urban congregations, working closely with the clergy and lay leadership in order to maximize opportunities for invitation, formation, outreach and service.

**\*The need to equip clergy to face the challenges and complexities of urban ministry.**

The Urban Residents Program will develop more resourceful, inventive and faithful leaders for the church. We believe clergy formed in the crucible of our multicultural, socio-economically diverse, continuously evolving cities will be well prepared to lead a changing church.

Through the Urban Residents Program, the Diocese of Massachusetts seeks to fund 10 full-time, 3-year assistant positions, deploying one new assistant every year during a ten-year cycle.

Congregations receiving an assistant must demonstrate a clear and compelling vision for ministry in their context, the capacity and commitment to train and mentor new clergy, and concrete engagement with the Diocesan Mission Strategy. Successful candidates must possess a passion for urban ministry and the ability to empower lay leadership, along with the readiness to take on a full-time, 3-year post. The program will be administered under the supervision of The Office of the Bishop Suffragan for Urban Congregations. An annual mutual ministry review and quarterly reports to the Bishop Suffragan will be required of the Urban Resident.

Although priority will be given to people ordained in the Diocese of Massachusetts, the ethnic, racial, cultural and linguistic diversity of our urban communities requires the consideration of candidates throughout the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion. Following completion of the program, an Urban Resident must first consider available clerical positions in this Diocese.

**2008 Application and Placement Procedure**

- Completed applications and supporting materials must be received by **3 p.m. on Monday, March 3, 2008**. Please mail or hand deliver four (4) copies of the application and one copy of the supporting materials to:

Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts  
ATTN: Staff Officer for Urban Ministry Development  
138 Tremont Street  
Boston, MA 02111

Urban Resident and Congregational Placement announced by May 2008.  
Urban Resident deployed in congregation as early as July 2008.

## **Contact Information**

For questions, comments or suggestions please contact The Rev. Gregory A. Jacobs, Staff Officer for Urban Ministry Development, at (617) 482-4826, Ext. 404; [gjacobson@diomass.org](mailto:gjacobs@diomass.org) or Suzette Phillips, Assistant to The Rt. Rev. Gayle Harris, at (617) 482-4826, Ext. 222; [shp@diomass.org](mailto:shp@diomass.org)

## **Application Format**

Application packet, submitted on standard 8 1/2" x 11" paper, in not less than 12-point type, single-spaced, shall include the following:

- 1 **Applicant's Name and Contact Information.** Please include mailing and e-mail addresses, and daytime and evening telephone numbers.
  - 2 **Statement of Goals.** Please describe, in no more than one page, your calling to ministry in an urban context. What is unique, compelling or challenging to you about ministry in this context? How would this residency further your vocation as an ordained minister in Christ's church?
  3. **Additional Questions.** In no more than four pages, please respond to each of the following queries:
    - Describe your experience launching new ministries and programs.
    - Describe your experience organizing and empowering leaders in a faith-based context.
    - Describe the three most significant areas of importance in your ministry (e.g., Christian formation, liturgy, youth, aging, homeless, family ministries, congregational development, economic justice, interfaith relations, etc.).
    - Describe the formal training and/or experiences that have helped you to establish competency in negotiating cultures other than your own.
    - Describe the gifts you bring to ministry, particularly ministry in an urban context.
    - Describe your areas for personal growth (i.e., growing edges) in ministry, particularly ministry in an urban context.
  4. **Supporting Materials.** In addition to the information and statements above, applicants must ensure the following materials have been received by the deadline of 3 p.m. on March 3, 2008
    - Seminary transcript
    - Final evaluations from Clinical Pastoral Education and Field Education internships
    - Three references (at least one clergy, one lay leader and, if applicable, a non-church professional reference)
    - The attached Applicants' Checklist, completed
- Applicants must also complete or have prepared to complete the following, by the deadline:
- National Church Clergy Deployment Office Profile (complete online)
  - Safe Church Training
  - Anti-racism Training
  - Oxford Document Management Company background check

### Applicants' Checklist

	<b>Have you submitted, completed or confirmed prompt delivery of the following?</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>
	Seminary transcript	
	Final evaluation for Field Education and Clinical Pastoral Education	
	Three references	
	National Church Clergy Deployment Office Profile	
	Safe Church Training	
	Anti-Racism Training	
	Oxford Document Management Company background check	

Please include with the application a complete explanation of circumstances related to all questions answered in the negative.