



TRIAL DEACON/DEACONESS PROCESS

1. Candidate is set forth at Local church.
2. Candidate completes:
 - Trial Deacon/Deaconess application
 - Permission to Obtain a Background Check form
 - Payment of \$10 fee. <https://engage.suran.com/tncogop/s/give/new-gift?slug=giving-funds>
3. The clerk completes the Endorsement part of the application.
4. Forms are sent to the State Bishop.
5. State Bishop:
 - Orders background check
 - Approves or denies request
 - If approved, issues a Trial Deacon/Deaconess Certificate and mails it to the pastor.
6. The local church pastor presents certificate to candidate and then mentors him/her for no less than one year and up to two years. During this time, the candidate must complete the Foundations: Ministry Development Program educational requirements. <https://ltdtraining.com/courses/>
7. The Trial Deacon/Deaconess reports quarterly to the local church and quarterly to the State Bishop.
8. After serving faithfully as a trial deacon/deaconess for at least one year, he/she can then pursue a Deacon/Deaconess certificate after being set forth by the local church.

DEACON/DEACONESS PROCESS

1. After a period of at least one year and no longer than two years serving faithfully as a Trial Deacon/Deaconess, the candidate is set forth at the local church.
2. Candidate completes:
 - Deacon/Deaconess application
 - Permission to Obtain a Background Check
 - Payment of \$10 fee. <https://engage.suran.com/tncogop/s/give/new-gift?slug=giving-funds>
3. The pastor completes the Endorsement part of the application.
4. Both forms along with a copy of the MDP Certificate are sent to the State Bishop.
5. State Bishop:
 - Orders background check
 - Approves or denies request
 - If approved, issues a Deacon/Deaconess Certificate and mails it to the pastor.
6. The pastor then presents the candidate with a Deacon/Deaconess Certificate at the local church.
7. The Deacon/Deaconess reports quarterly to the local church and annually to the State Bishop.

IMPORTANT: The Trial Deacon/Deaconess or Deacon/Deaconess Applicant must be a member and regular attender of the local Church of God of Prophecy congregation that is setting him/her forth.