



Application for Preparation for Commissioned Ruling Elders (CREs) For Officiating at Communion

Presbytery of Baltimore
Commission on Preparation for Ministry

Before you begin

Please review the [Handbook for Preparation for Commissioned Ruling Elders \(CRE\) To Particular Pastoral Service](#), available on the Presbytery of Baltimore's website (Baltimorepresbytery.org/com).

You will need the following to complete this application:

- A letter of reference from your pastor or the moderator of your congregation's Session
- A letter of reference from a member of your congregation
- The year of your baptism
- The year of your profession of faith
- The date you joined your current congregation
- Dates of your ordination as ruling elder

About the process

As outlined in the Handbook for Preparation for Commissioned Ruling Elders, the Commission on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) and Commission on Ministry (COM) collaborate on certification and commissioning. Because of this, you will be in contact with both commissions throughout the duration of the preparation and commissioning process.

1. Contact the chair of the CPM to briefly discuss your interest in service as a Commissioned Ruling Elder.
2. Complete your application. Presbytery staff will facilitate conversation between your congregation and the COM.



3. The Session of your congregation will meet with you to discuss your potential service as a CRE.
4. After submitting your application and Session endorsement, you will meet with the CPM for a 15-30 minute interview to discuss your course of preparation and receive an opportunity to ask questions or raise concerns.

Key Contacts

Rev. Mary Gaut

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Presbytery of Baltimore
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Section 1: Personal Information

First name

Last name

Pronouns (opt.)

Primary phone

Email

Please provide any family information you consider relevant to your application:

Section 2: Church Information

Year of baptism

Year of profession of faith

Church of membership

Date joined

Date of ordination as elder

Date of ordination as deacon (if applicable)

List your areas of involvement in the life and mission of the church, both as a participant and a leader. Indicate current areas of involvement with an asterisk (*).



Section 3: References

These should be the same individuals who submitted letters of recommendation.

Pastoral Recommendation

First name

Last name

Primary phone

Email

Session Recommendation

Date of Session Meeting

Person writing recommendation

Primary phone

Email

Other Recommendation (optional)

First name

Last name

Primary phone

Email



Section 4: Questions for Reflection

Please submit a separate document with reflections on the following questions. Be sure to label each question. Include your name and date on each page of the document.

1. Describe yourself as a person.
2. Briefly describe your sense of call and understanding of what it means to be commissioned to officiate Communion in your congregation.
3. Write a brief statement of your personal faith.
4. What does it mean to you to be a Presbyterian?
5. Describe your current spiritual practices and disciplines.

Section 5: Certification of Application

I hereby apply to enroll in preparation for Commissioned Ruling Elders (CREs) in the Presbytery of Baltimore. I certify that all the information contained in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Furthermore, I certify that (a) no civil, criminal, or ecclesiastical complaint has ever been sustained or is pending against me for sexual misconduct; and (b) I have never resigned or been terminated from a position for reasons related to sexual misconduct.

Signature

Date

Name (printed)