

**Licensing Requirements for  
the Eucharistic Minister (EM)  
from the Commission on Ministry  
of the Diocese of Hawai'i**

**Eucharistic Minister**

*A Eucharistic Minister is a lay person authorized to administer the Consecrated Elements at a Celebration of Holy Eucharist. A Eucharistic Minister acts under the direction of a Deacon, if any, or otherwise the Member of the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation or other community of faith. (Title III, Canon 4, Sec. 6)*

The function of the “Eucharistic Minister” (EM) ministry is focused and limited, especially when compared with that of the “Eucharistic Visitor” (EV).

**PRE-REQUISITES (FOR AUTHORIZATION)**

- ❖ The EM shall be a confirmed communicant in good standing of the Episcopal Church and the congregation, who has been invited to this ministry by the Deacon of a congregation, or the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight of that congregation or community of faith.
- ❖ The EM must possess an ability to administer the elements of bread and wine in the context of public worship.
- ❖ The EM must undergo Safe Church Training in a program approved by the Diocese.

**FORMATION**

Training for EMs must include the following:

- ❖ A basic knowledge of and respect for the sacrament of Holy Eucharist;
- ❖ A knowledge of the historical content of Eucharistic ministry, and its connection to the Baptismal Covenant;
- ❖ A familiarity with the rites and options, as found in the *Book of Common Prayer* (which is the liturgical standard for the Diocese of Hawai'i) and other rites authorized by the General Convention of the Episcopal Church and/or the Bishop of Hawai'i;
- ❖ A familiarity with the seasons of the Church year and the use of the lectionary; and
- ❖ A recognition of the role of his/her ministry within the life of the Church.

**RENEWAL**

The renewal of EM licenses is to be done every three (3) years, according to the Diocesan guidelines, with the Deacon, Clergy, or leader with oversight of this ministry attesting in writing to the EM's formation and his/her fulfillment of the above requirements.

**CONGREGATION'S CUSTOMARY**

- ❖ The Bishop and Commission on Ministry strongly encourage Clergy with oversight of congregations to develop a written customary of liturgical practices for their own congregation to allow for local consistency of form and practice in worship. The Bishop hopes to review the customary of each congregation before his annual visitations. The Bishop and the Commission on Ministry expect that there be local consistency in the form of scripture readings, the administration of the Sacrament, and general liturgical practice.