

Policy on Sacramental Licensing

Candidates

The Regional Council will grant a licence upon receiving a request from the governing body of the community of faith, to Candidates in Supervised Ministry Education immediately and to Candidates in Supply Appointments after their first year in the appointment. The licence is for the length of the appointment within the bounds of the community of faith. A letter from the candidate's theological college noting the satisfactory completion of a course of study on worship and the sacraments is required.

Designated Lay Ministers

The Regional Council will grant a licence upon receiving a request from the governing body of the community of faith. The licence is for the length of the appointment within the bounds of the region.

Designated Lay Ministers While in Training

The Regional Council will grant a licence upon receiving a request from the governing body of the community of faith. The licence is for the length of the appointment within the bounds of the region. A letter from the theological college noting the satisfactory completion of a course of study on worship and the sacraments is required.

Designated Lay Ministers Without An Appointment

The Manual does not allow the Regional Council to grant a licence to designated lay ministers without an appointment.

Lay Members Retired from Designated Lay Ministry

The Regional Council will grant a licence upon receiving a request from the retiree. The member needs to have been recognized by the Regional Council as a designated lay minister at the time of their retirement. The licence is for five years within the bounds of the region. The member must satisfy the United Church of Canada requirements for a current police records check and mandatory trainings.

Diaconal Ministers

The Regional Council will grant a licence to a diaconal minister in a call or appointment, upon receiving the Record of Call or Appointment, for the duration of the call or appointment and without geographical limitations. A request from the governing body is not required.

Diaconal Ministers Outside of a Pastoral Relationship

The Manual does not allow the Regional Council to grant a licence to diaconal ministers who are not in a pastoral relationship.

Retired Diaconal Ministers

The Regional Council will grant a licence upon receiving a letter from the retiree. The licence is without geographical limitations and is for five years. It is renewable. In order to carry out the functions of ministry the retiree must be in a formal association with a community of faith as a Voluntary Associate Minister.

Ordained Ministers

A licence is not required in order to preside over the sacraments.

Ordained Ministers Outside of a Pastoral Relationship

A licence is not required in order to preside over the sacraments. In order to carry out the functions of ministry the minister must be in a formal association with a community of faith as a Voluntary Associate Minister.

Retired Ordained Ministers

A licence is not required in order to preside over the sacraments. In order to carry out the functions of ministry the retiree must be in a formal association with a community of faith as a Voluntary Associate Minister.

Sacraments Elders

Please see the Regional Council's Policy on Licensing Sacraments Elders.