



*the Episcopal Church
in Wyoming*

WISE Lay Ministry in the Episcopal Church in Wyoming

Guidelines for WISE Lay Ministry

The call to become a WISE Lay Minister may be felt by an individual or may come from outside; from their church leadership, a fellow worshipper, or from anyone who recognizes qualities in them suitable for ministry. They must be baptized and confirmed, and regular communicants of the Episcopal Church from which they are called, and be familiar with the traditions and practices of the church.

They should be sufficiently mature and stable to show that they can sustain the demanding role of a minister and to face change and pressure in a flexible and balanced way. They should be seen as people of integrity.

Process

Under the guidance of local clergy leadership and the Commission on Ministry, a Discernment Committee will be assembled to help them clarify their call to ministry, which will follow the Diocese's discernment process.

See: [*Discernment Process*](#)

If discernment warrants continuing the process, they will be recommended by the COM for enrollment in the Wyoming Iona School for training. The training is a three-year commitment to study theology, ethics, church history, Anglican Studies, Biblical Interpretation as well as applied vocational lessons in homiletics, pastoral care, spiritual practice, leadership, liturgy, and multicultural engagement. Beyond these learning opportunities, the school will facilitate training specific to each WISE Lay Ministry student's particular call utilizing Diocesan expertise, Iona Collaborative partners, and other resources.

Commission and licensing as a WISE Lay Minister will be dependent upon successful completion of the Wyoming Iona School program and the WISE Lay Ministry process as prescribed by the Commission on Ministry.

Next Steps

Once trained, WISE Lay Ministers will be commissioned and presented with a distinctive Iona Plaid minister's scarf to wear over their alb when vesting. Alongside their own particular calling to ministry, each WISE Lay Minister will be automatically licensed to perform all current licensed lay ministries in the diocese

There is an expectation that WISE Lay Ministers, like all other ministers, will participate in relevant continuing education each year.

