

Para-Professional

Level VII: Institutes and Specialized Trainings

Level VIII: Continuing Education Certificates

Professional

Level IX: Undergraduate Degree

Level X: Graduate Degree

Office of Christian Formation

PARA-PROFESSIONAL LEVELS

Certifications are not issued by the Diocesan Office of Christian Formation for para-professional level credentials. None are needed. Individuals who participate in training programs at this level should receive their certification from the institution that sponsors the training. The Diocesan Office of Christian Formation does not keep records of attendance or records of completion of programs at this level.

LEVEL VII: Institutes and Specialized Training Programs

The Office of Christian Formation recognizes certifications from institutes or specialized training programs that address specific catechetical areas. Examples: University of Notre Dame STEP online certificate program, Aquinas Institute undergraduate level courses, Spiritual Growth Leadership Institute; Racial Sobriety Training-Institute; Spiritual Directors Training Programs; Rainbows Training; LIMEX Facilitator Training; Adult Youth Ministers Training, North American Forum on the Catechumenate Institutes. The certificate awarded to the individual by the institute offering the training is the only credential needed at this level.

The following credentials are recognized by the Office of Christian Formation as beyond the scope of the Catechist Certification process. These credentials do not need catechist or advanced catechist certifications as a pre-requisite. The requirements for Catechist and Advanced Catechist Certification at the diocesan level become redundant and unnecessary in Level VII: Alternative Options and Levels VIII, IX and X.

Level VII: Alternative Options

The Office of Christian Formation has partnered with the University of Dayton to offer online courses for a *Certificate in Catechesis*. This certificate is an alternative to the diocesan Catechist Certification process. The Aquinas Institute Catechetical program is also recognized as an alternative. Anyone who earns the Certificate in Catechesis or the catechist certification awarded by the Aquinas Institute is automatically recognized as a Catechist and Advanced Catechist in the Diocese of Lafayette.

LEVEL VIII: Continuing Education Certificates

The Office of Christian Formation recognizes certificates/certifications from Catholic Universities indicating that a required course of study in Religious Education or a related field for continuing education credits is complete. Example: LIMEX – CEU students. The certificate awarded to the individual by the university is the only credential needed at this level. It is equivalent to Catechist and Advanced Catechist certification by the Diocese of Lafayette.

PROFESSIONAL LEVELS

Certifications are not issued by the Diocesan Office of Christian Formation for professional level credentials. None are needed. The Diocesan Office of Christian Formation does not keep records of attendance or records of completion of university degree programs. The degree awarded to the individual by the university is the only credential needed at this level. Individuals who hold these types of degrees are recognized as Catechists and Advanced Catechists by the Diocese of Lafayette.

LEVEL IX: Undergraduate Degree

Reached when an individual receives an undergraduate degree from a Catholic University in the area of Theology, Religious Studies, Religious Education, Pastoral Ministry or a related field.

LEVEL X: Graduate Degree

Reached when an individual receives a graduate degree from a Catholic University in the area of Theology, Religious Studies, Religious Education, Pastoral Ministry or a related field.

For more information on degree programs, contact the Office of Christian Formation @ 261-5550.