

**RECRUITMENT, SELECTION, AND RETENTION OF PROFESSIONAL
CATECHETICAL PERSONNEL**

For programs under the jurisdiction of the parish, the recruitment and selection of professional catechetical employees shall primarily be the responsibility of the Pastor. In addition, others may be requested to assist in the interview process.

Only those individuals grounded in faith, willing to support Gospel values and Catholic teaching, and willing to inspire students through their word and example may be selected or retained as professional catechetical employees in the Diocese of Harrisburg.

Catechetical employees are expected to maintain the quality of their faith commitment and their willingness to uphold the teachings of the Catholic Church. Catechetical employees who espouse, by word or action, practices contrary to the teachings of the Catholic faith will be dismissed.

Catechetical employees are expected to fulfill their Sunday liturgical obligations and otherwise participate fully in the life of their Catholic parish.

All professional catechetical employees must be committed to on-going personal religious education and formation. They are to complete the requirements for the Basic Catechetical Certificate and the Advanced Catechetical Certificate. They are encouraged to further their formation with additional programs and certification available through the diocese.

Reciprocity may be extended to those catechists holding certification from other dioceses with similar requirements. The Diocesan Director of Religious Education will make the necessary determination.

The Diocese of Harrisburg requires all catechetical employees to have the Pennsylvania State Police (and FBI Background check if applicable) and the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare Background check.

All professional catechetical employees must be at least 21 years old.

Policy
Revised:
September 1, 2008

KCR/Bishop of Harrisburg