



Catechist Certification

Foundation for Catechist Certification: Code of Canon Law

803.2 The instruction and education in a Catholic school must be grounded in the principles of Catholic doctrine: teachers are to be outstanding in correct doctrine and integrity of life

804.2 The local ordinary is to be concerned that those who are designated teachers of religious instruction in schools, even in non-Catholic ones, are outstanding in correct doctrine, the witness of a Christian life and teaching skill.

805 For his own diocese the local ordinary has the right to appoint or approve teachers of religion and even to remove them or demand that they be removed if a reason of religion or morals requires it.

Certificate	Requirement	Hours
Initial Catechist <i>required</i>	For new employees (Catholic and non-Catholics) <i>Pre-school employees are encouraged but not required</i>	10 catechist clock hours in 2 years
Basic Catechist <i>required</i>	All Catechist K-12	Additional 20 catechist clock hours in 4 years
Advanced Catechist <i>optional</i>	All Catechist K-12	Additional 48 catechist clock hours
Master Catechist <i>optional</i>	Undergraduate or Graduate credit	20 credit hours
***Continuing <i>required</i>	All employees (Catholic and non-Catholic) must continue taking coursework annually to maintain certificate status at any level	Additional 5 catechist clock hours annually

**Certificate status is valid for up to 5 consecutive years of non-active employment.

Content Requirements:

Pillar I: Profession of Faith

Scripture

- Old Testament
- Ten Commandments
- New Testament
- Trinity and Images of God
- Christology and Redemption
- Mary, Church, and the Saints

Theology

- Creed
- Church History
- Catholic Culture and Tradition
- Apologetics
- Church Documents
- Catholic Spiritualities
- Ecumenism
- Living the Faith in Society

Pillar II: Celebration of the Christian Mystery

Liturgy and Sacraments

- The Paschal Mystery
- Sacramental Theology
- Sacraments of Initiation
- Sacraments of Healing
- Sacraments at the Service of Communion
- Effective Liturgy

Pillar III: Life in Christ

Morality and Social Justice

- Faith and Human Development
- Science and Faith
- Dignity of the Human Person
- Theology of the Body
- Bioethics
- Catholic Social Teaching
- Conscience Formation and Decision-Making

Pillar IV: Christian Prayer

Spiritually and Prayer

- Vocation of the Catholic School Teacher
- Building a faith community
- Spiritual person Call to Prayer
- The Lord's Prayer
- Forms and Styles of Prayer

Catechetical Formation and Methodology

- Ministry Formation
- Evangelization and the Nature of Catechesis
- Catechetical Process
- Learning and Teaching Style