

## Qualifications for a Youth Minister

Area of Formation	Competencies	How Acquired/Demonstrated for Certification Purposes
<b>HUMAN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Affirms the dignity of the human person</li> <li>▪ Appreciates the values of diverse cultures, races and socioeconomic groups</li> <li>▪ Participates in continuing ministerial formation and lifelong personal growth</li> <li>▪ Recognizes the reality of both personal and social sin and the consequences, as well as the power of forgiveness and reconciliation</li> <li>▪ Maintains a healthy lifestyle and reasonable balance among family, community, personal relationships and ministry activities</li> <li>▪ Displays psychological health through integrity, appropriate interpersonal boundaries and the ability to safeguard trust</li> <li>▪ Exercises positive leadership in pastoral leadership regarding collaboration in decision-making, supervision of others and confidentiality</li> <li>▪ Promotes the lifelong formation of all parishioners, promotes evangelization and supports multicultural diversity within parish life, vision and mission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A life of adult Christian maturity testified to by letters of recommendation and reference and demonstrated in the course of interviews</li> <li>▪ Course work in areas such as human growth and development, family systems, crisis intervention and counseling theory</li> </ul>
<b>SPIRITUAL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Honors the call to ministry, rooted in baptism through spirituality formed by theological reflection on Scripture, sacramental and communal worship and active participation in parish life</li> <li>▪ Witnesses to the importance of Eucharist in personal prayer and formation, in the life of the parish and the whole Catholic community</li> <li>▪ Models the spirit of Jesus Christ in promoting the universal Church with its global mission and address current realities in the Church in the light of the Gospel message</li> <li>▪ Integrates within parish activities, Catholic social justice teachings, sacramental and liturgical catechesis and pastoral care among the sick, the dying and the grieving of the parish community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A fully initiated, practicing Catholic in good standing</li> <li>▪ Participation in retreats, days of recollection, spiritual direction, spiritual formation courses and/or workshops, and the like</li> </ul>

## Qualifications for a Youth Minister

Area of Formation	Competencies	How Acquired/Demonstrated for Certification Purposes
<b>INTELLECTUAL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coursework in theology, scriptures, liturgy, psychology, and educational theory</li> <li>▪ Able to reflect theologically, for example, the impact of Catholic social justice teachings in ministry planning and implementation</li> <li>▪ Understands the principles of psychology and sociology, most especially those pertaining to adolescence and family development</li> <li>▪ Knowledge of the foundations or principles underlying youth ministry</li> <li>▪ Knowledge of catechetical methodology</li> <li>▪ Knowledge of the psychological and spiritual development of children and adolescents</li> <li>▪ Knowledge of the principles of youth counseling and spiritual direction</li> <li>▪ Familiar with interpersonal and group dynamic skills focused on youth programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimally, a bachelor's degree in youth ministry, religious education, secondary education or a related field is required for a Youth Minister. A master's degree is encouraged.</li> </ul>
<b>PASTORAL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Motivates people to inculturate the Gospel into their own culture by using human, spiritual, theological and pastoral approaches familiar to each culture so as to foster unity in diversity within the Catholic Church</li> <li>▪ Implements evangelization and faith formation principles and processes provided in national and universal Church documents</li> <li>▪ Utilizes modern communication technology to proclaim the Gospel</li> <li>▪ Promotes effective ministry by utilizing the leadership skills of collaboration, visioning, planning, communication, decision-making, delegation and conflict management</li> <li>▪ Nurtures the prayer life of the community</li> <li>▪ Exhibits sensitivity to multicultural concerns, communicates effectively with persons of many cultures and celebrates diversity within the parish community</li> <li>▪ Able to design and implement a comprehensive program of youth ministry based on the eight components of youth ministry from the 1997 USCCB's document, <i>Renewing the Vision</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Experience in catechizing or teaching religion (i.e., as a religion teacher in an elementary or secondary school or as a catechist in a parish religious education program)</li> <li>▪ Administrative experience that involves the direction of programs and personnel</li> <li>▪ Completion of the Perceiver Interview</li> <li>▪ Attendance at district meetings and diocesan events</li> <li>▪ Attendance at diocesan continuing education programs, conferences and conventions and in-services</li> </ul>