



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF DALLAS

Diaconal Ministry & Formation

Minimum Requirements for Acceptance into Aspirancy

- Recommended by his current pastor.
- Between the ages of 30 and 59.
- High school graduate or GED (College degree preferred)
- Registered member of a parish within the Diocese of Dallas in which he is actively involved in the sacramental life and ministry of the parish.
- If married, is in a sacramental marriage for at least five years and has the full support of his spouse.
- If a convert, a practicing Roman Catholic for at least five years.
- Free of canonical irregularities and impediments
- A U.S. citizen or legal U.S. resident with a permanent residency card.
- Able to participate in a demanding six-year process of formation requiring a significant investment of time and academic aptitude.

The Qualities of a Good Diaconate Candidate

“A natural inclination of service to the Christian community in kindness and humility.”

- Active member of the community
- Sound faith
- Good Christian reputation
- Regular participation in the sacraments
- Recognized commitment to the Church’s life and service
- Positive and stable marriage
- Deep spirituality and prayer life
- Kindness and humility
- Capacity for obedience and fraternal communion
- Participation in faith enrichment opportunities (retreats, days of recollection, etc.)
- Maturity and holiness
- Generosity in service
- Able to share one’s faith, but open to others point of view
- Capacity to listen carefully and without prejudices
- Good communication skills
- Capacity for dialogue: sense of docility and openness
- Self-directed and collaborative accountability
- Balance and prudent judgment
- Psychological integrity (psycho-socio-sexual maturity)
- Sense of responsibility (true to their word and complete their work)
- Ability to lead, motivate, facilitate and animate others into action and service