

Summary of Safe Church guidelines

Note: Online training for those for whom that applies will be available after April 1, 2010.

Parish employees who work directly with children (12 and under) or youth (18 and under)

- Diocesan background check through Oxford Document Services, completed within 30 days of start of employment (at the parish's expense)
- Diocesan Safeguarding God's Children in-person training (within six months)

Other parish employees and volunteers who work regularly and directly with children and youth

- Congregational background check* by a company approved by the diocesan chancellor, such as LifeWay, completed within 30 days of start of employment or start of work with children/youth (at the parish's expense)
- Diocesan Safeguarding God's Children in-person training (within six months)
- Volunteers must be known in the parish for at least six months before beginning work.

Sunday school teachers and those who work "occasionally" with children (normally, fewer than three times a year)

- Screened via application, two reference checks and interviews with rector or ministry director
- Safeguarding God's Children training, either in person or online, with follow-up discussion with rector or ministry director (within six months)
- Volunteers must be known in the parish for at least six months before beginning work.

Parish wardens, Eucharistic visitors, pastoral visitors, Stephen ministers and EFM mentors

- Diocesan Safeguarding God's Children in-person training (within six months)

Diocesan campus ministers, campus interns and campus in-house peer ministers

- Diocesan Safeguarding God's Children in-person training (within six months)

Diocesan campus peer ministers living in their own home

- Safeguarding God's Children training, either in person or online, with follow-up discussion with campus ministers (within six months)

*Congregational background checks must include criminal background, credit history and sexual offender registry in any state of residence for past seven years. It is recommended that congregational checks include:

- an application;
- an interview with the priest in charge of the congregation; and
- reference checks.

Congregational background check companies approved by the diocesan chancellor:

- LifeWay (www.lifewaystores.com/lwstore/bgc.asp)