



Diocese of Fall River Religion Teachers Certification Program

This certification program is provided by the Diocese of Fall River to promote the mission of Catholic Schools.

This program is the collaborative effort of:

- The Office of Catholic Schools
- The Office of Faith Formation
- The University of Notre Dame Satellite Theology Program: Step On-line

All middle school teachers who teach multiple grade levels must be certified through the Diocese of Fall River. In order to become certified, Religion teachers must be practicing Roman Catholics.

The Certification Program requires a two-part process:

Part I: One of the following criteria must be fulfilled.

- a. Degree in Theology or Religious Studies from a Catholic Institution
- b. A sufficient number of Theology or Religious Studies courses approved by the Superintendent
- c. Completion of the Notre Dame Step On-line Theology Program

Part II: The Completion of *Teaching Methodology and Spirituality* courses offered by the Diocese of Fall River.

The Superintendent of Catholic Schools and/or designee, working with the principal, is responsible for evaluating Religion courses, workshops, and seminars completed that are commensurate with the diocesan course requirements in order to grant certification status.

The certification process will be completed within a three-year cycle.

Areas of Formation



- ★ Creed
- ★ Scripture
- ★ Christology
- ★ Liturgy and Prayer
- ★ Sacraments
- ★ Morality
- ★ Justice and Peace

Knowledge of Theology

Provided by Notre Step Courses



- † Core Course: Introduction to the Catholic Faith
- † Introduction to the Old Testament: The Pentateuch
- † Introduction to the New Testament
- † Doctrine of Salvation in Jesus Christ
- † An Introduction to the Sacraments
- † The Christian Conscience and Ethical Dilemmas

Teaching Methodology and Spirituality

Provided by the Catholic Education Center



- * Faith Development Theory
- * Building Christian Community
- * Learning Environment
- * Alternative Strategies for Teaching Religion
- * Critical Thinking Skills
- * Liturgy Planning