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The Archdiocese of Detroit's Office of Safe Environments adheres to the USCCB – Dallas Charter and its requirements by providing programs to assist parents and children - and all those who work and volunteer in Archdiocesan parishes, schools, agencies, and Curia offices- with training and screening in preventing harm to young people and vulnerable adults.

These requirements apply to any volunteer at a parish or school-coordinated ministry or event, whether that happens on or off school property. Whether or not a volunteer or employee interacts directly with children or vulnerable adults, all volunteers play a role in ensuring the safety and well-being of our parish and school communities.

Please read the following information –

- NEW employees and volunteers are required to take a “live” PGC class and register through [VIRTUS® Online](#).
 - There are in-person and Zoom options for the “live” class.
 - The training for new employees/volunteers takes around three hours.
- A Background Check is required every two years for our volunteers (who do not work directly with children and vulnerable adults). All volunteers who work directly with children and vulnerable adults will be required to be fingerprinted by December 2027. All employees of the Archdiocese of Detroit are required to be fingerprinted by May 2027. More information on our new fingerprinting requirements can be found [HERE](#).
***please note: All new registered users through VIRTUS complete a background check authorization form during the registration process.*
- Individuals who completed the *Protecting God's Children* training BEFORE (Today's Date) 2023 are required to take our recertification course.
 - The recertification class is self-paced. You can pause, save, and resume the class as needed, based on your schedule.
 - The recertification training should take approximately 30 minutes.
 - Recertification training will then be required every three years and is automatically assigned to your account 15 days prior to current training expiring.
- Once a Background Check has been processed, a Code of Conduct has been signed, and the *Protecting God's Children* training has been completed then you will be authorized to volunteer/be employed at your school or parish. Please note that all three of these components are required prior to employment or active volunteering status.

Not our compliance, but our calling.

Often when we hear about the efforts of the Church regarding sexual abuse, we hear about the importance of compliance with the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. From a faith environment perspective, the importance is not in our compliance, but in our calling. As Catholics, we are called to respect the life and dignity of every human person from conception to natural death. The Charter guides us in action to our calling. Our calling furthers the Gospel message of Christ. Thank you for your cooperation in protecting all of God's children.