

## Safe Environment Requirements

**The Archdiocese of Seattle has had a long commitment to the protection of children, youth, and vulnerable adults.** For more than 25 years, the Archdiocese has taken steps to assure the safety of those who serve in our parishes, schools, and agencies. Sexual abuse, sexual misconduct, and sexual harassment are abusive and harmful actions that have no place in the Church community or in society. The Archdiocese of Seattle deeply cherishes the bond of sacred trust between its members.

The Archdiocese of Seattle requires all Church Personnel (defined as all clergy, all employees, and all volunteers who have contact with minors or vulnerable adults in their volunteer capacity) to take part in our Safe Environment Program in three ways.

They must:

1. Successfully undergo a criminal background check every three years, to be completed before their start of service.
2. Complete the *Protecting God's Children* course within 30 days of beginning of service.
3. Read and sign the Archdiocesan policies of conduct, to be completed on or before their start of service.

You may complete these requirements by accessing the *Virtus* database, our Catholic Risk Retention Group focused on the prevention of abuse. New church personnel will need to create a *Virtus* profile (<https://www.virtusonline.org/>) by using the "First-Time Registrant" link.

Applicants will not be eligible to work or volunteer in any capacity until these requirements have been satisfied.

By signing this document, you agree and understand what is required of church personnel and understand that failure to complete the requirements will result in the inability to work or volunteer within the Archdiocese of Seattle.

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Printed Name

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Date

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Signature

*Office Note: Keep a hard copy on file and provide a copy for the participant in order for them to fulfill their Safe Environment Requirements.*