

<https://protect.aod.org/training-screening>

Training for Clergy, Employees, Volunteers and Children

Safe environment programs are in place to assist parents and children - and all those who work and volunteer in Archdiocesan parishes, schools, agencies, and Curia offices- in preventing harm to young people. The following age-appropriate safe environment training programs are taught in the Archdiocese of Detroit

NOTE This includes those who fall in the above categories but do not interact with children.

For Adults: [Protecting God's Children](#)

- **New Employees and Recurrent Adult Volunteers**
 - All new paid employees, stipend individuals, coaches, catechists, shared-time teachers, VBS staff, lunchroom/ playground volunteers, and tutors must complete:
 - A live *Protecting God's Children* training, available either in-person or via Zoom
 - The online *Vulnerable Adults 2.0 Module*
 - The live in-person and Zoom sessions are two-and-a-half to three hours in length and include the *Protecting God's Children 4.0 module*. Sessions are available in English and Spanish.
 - Registrants to the live sessions are automatically assigned access to the 40-minute online *Vulnerable Adults 2.0* module, which they complete on their own time. The registrant can pause, save, and resume their position in the training if they cannot complete it in one sitting. Individuals in this category will receive certificates showing completion of the live module and the online *Vulnerable Adults* module.
- **New Intermittent / Occasional Volunteers**
 - Occasional new adult volunteers who do not serve in a recurring role with youth (as listed above) may complete *Protecting God's Children certification* either through a live session (in person or via Zoom) or by

completing the *Protecting God's Children Online Awareness Session 4.0* and *Vulnerable Adults 2.0* combined self-paced training module.

- The online modules take approximately two hours to complete. The online modules are available in English and Spanish, with closed captioning and Polish or Vietnamese subtitles. The registrant can pause, save, and resume their position in the training if they cannot complete it in one sitting. Individuals in this category will receive a certificate showing completion of the combined module.
- **Recertification for All current Adult Employees and Volunteers**
 - All clergy, employees, and volunteers with a certificate dated 2022 or older must recertify by completing the online, self-paced modules *Protecting God's Children 4.0* and *Vulnerable Adults 2.0*.
 - **Everyone who has completed a Protecting God's Children session (even as far back as 2002) has an individual account in the Virtus platform.** As such, please log into your Virtus account to begin your recertification. Please do not re-create an account. Instead, proceed with the username / password recovery option by clicking [HERE](#) or contact the Virtus Helpdesk at helpdesk@virtus.org or 888-847-8870.
 - Once in your account, go to "Online Training Modules" and click "Protecting God's Children Awareness Session 4.0 and Vulnerable Adults Combined."
- **Ongoing Triennial Recertification**
 - All individuals are required to complete the *Protecting God's Children* online recertification module within three months of the third anniversary of their previous *Protecting God's Children* certification (every three years).
- **Please note that there is no longer a grace period for new employees or volunteers to complete a Protecting God's Children session and background check.**
 - Individuals CANNOT be employed or serve in any volunteer capacity in the Archdiocese of Detroit until they have digitally signed the revised Code of Conduct, supplied background check information, and completed the appropriate Protecting God's Children session.

- **Teen Volunteers**

- High school students who wish to volunteer at any AOD parish or school must complete Virtus'online workshops: *Healthy Relationships for Teens 2.0 Online Module Expansion with SafeEnvironment Components*. This module is accessible online through Virtus and is intended to help youth identify the differences between healthy and unhealthy relationships. The module also equips teens to follow a plan to do the right thing for themselves and others upon recognizing an unhealthy situation. This module takes approximately 35 minutes to complete. To access the module, teen volunteers need to register on the [Virtus site](#). After inputting their date of birth, the system will know they are minor and will assign them the *Healthy Relationships for Teens 2.0* module.
- Certificates and/or notification of completion of the module will be available to local Virtus administrators.

Background Checks / Screening

Employees and volunteers help the church flourish and are crucial to our parish and school communities. Our parishes and schools must be safe places. There's an assumption that churches and schools are filled with people who love children and can be trusted. How often do you find children wandering away from their parents and other adults at a parish or school event, whether to the playground or even the bathroom? Yet, in any place where a group of people is gathered, whether it be a parish or school function, a parish festival, or a regular parish event, there is always a risk of unwanted incidents that could harm children. Running background checks for ALL employees and volunteers can help deter criminals and sexual predators from participating in any parish or school ministry or event. If a criminal understands that they'll have to undergo a background check, they will be less likely to attempt to volunteer. This helps weed out potentially dangerous people before they even begin serving.

Regular background checks add another layer of security to keep kids safe. Not allowing potential criminals and sex offenders around children is critical. Completing background checks and rescreens protects children from harmful people and creates a safe environment for all. Background checks can also help identify adults who should not drive children and vulnerable adults.

The Archdiocese of Detroit uses the Michigan State Police's ICHAT system for most background checks in our parishes and schools. The ICHAT is a simple

process; it only requires inputting a person's name, date of birth, gender, and race.

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Facilitator</u>	<u>Max size</u>
09/25/2025 6:00 PM	Online Webinar	Erin Taft	300
09/17/2025 6:00 PM	Immaculate Conception Parish Ira Township	Maegan Pierson	125
09/16/2025 6:00 PM	Online Webinar	Erin Taft	300
09/11/2025 6:00 PM	St. Irenaeus Parish Rochester Hills	Joseph Tremblay Katherine Tremblay	125
09/10/2025 6:00 PM	St. Fabian Parish Farmington Hills	Kevin Walters	125
09/09/2025 6:00 PM	Gesu School Detroit	Mary Dumm	125
09/08/2025 6:00 PM	Online Webinar	Maegan Pierson	300
09/03/2025 6:00 PM	Online Webinar	Erin Taft	300
08/26/2025 1:00 PM	Online Webinar	Maegan Pierson	300
08/23/2025 9:00 AM	Holy Redeemer Parish Detroit Session conducted in Spanish	Carmen Munoz-Gonzalez	125
08/21/2025 1:00 PM	Online Webinar	Erin Taft	300
08/04/2025 6:00 PM	Online Webinar	Maegan Pierson	300
07/30/2025 1:00 PM	Online Webinar	Maegan Pierson	300
07/24/2025 1:00 PM	Online Webinar	Maegan Pierson	300
07/19/2025 9:00 AM	St. Aidan Parish Livonia	Erin Taft	125
07/16/2025 1:00 PM	Online Webinar	Erin Taft	300
07/08/2025 6:00 PM	Online Webinar	Maegan Pierson	300
06/30/2025 6:00 PM	Online Webinar	Maegan Pierson	300