Revised Specialized Competencies of the Five Alliance Organizations

The specialized competencies are presented here in the following order (alphabetically by organization). Each of the specialized competencies is designated below by the abbreviation that follows each role:

Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions (FDLC)
   _ Diocesan Director of Worship–DW
   _ Parish Director of Liturgy–DL

National Association for Lay Ministry (NALM) Parish Life Coordinator–PLC
   _ Pastoral Associate–PA
   _ Parish Business Manager–PBM

National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM)
   _ Director of Music Ministries–DMM

National Conference for Catechetical Leadership (NCCL)
   _ Parish Catechetical Leader–PCL
   _ Parish Director of Evangelization–PDE
National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM)
_ Youth Ministry Leader, including Pastoral Juvenil Hispana or High School Campus Ministry Leader—YML
_ Diocesan Youth Ministry Leader, including Pastoral Juvenil Hispana—DYML

FDLC / Diocesan Director of Worship (DW) Specialized Competencies

The (arch)bishop is the chief liturgist of his (arch)diocese. He appoints the pastors and other ministers to care for the liturgical life of his people.

In collaboration with these ministers, a competent lay liturgist will prepare and execute liturgies with style and grace. He/she will also be responsible for the liturgical formation of liturgical ministers and parish assemblies.

In addition to the competencies and standards listed above, the lay liturgist will be well formed in the study of Sacred Liturgy—its theology, its history, and its right praxis.

It is assumed that one who serves as a Director of Worship at an (arch)diocesan level and who serves the (arch)bishop and clergy and the faithful of the (arch)diocese, will possess at least a master’s degree in liturgical studies from an accredited university program.

A Diocesan Director of worship will:

**Demonstrate a knowledge of official liturgical documents and texts**

DW 1 Demonstrate facility with the Church’s official liturgical books and be able to implement the various rites of the Church in their appropriate liturgical contexts.

DW 2 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of current legislation, documentation, and pastoral practice in order to prepare liturgical rites and celebrations.

DW 3 Demonstrate an ability to evaluate liturgical celebrations in fidelity to the official liturgical books and Catholic liturgical theology.

DW 4 Develop parish liturgical and music guidelines and policies in accord with universal and diocesan norms.

**Demonstrate a knowledge of liturgical history**

DW 5 Demonstrate an ability to explain the history of Catholic liturgy and the cultural contexts which impacted it.

**Demonstrate a knowledge of the liturgical year**

DW 6 Demonstrate an understanding of the Liturgical Year by appropriately celebrating the seasons, weeks, days, and hours of the year.

DW 7 Demonstrate a knowledge of the sanctoral cycle and its place within the liturgical year.

**Demonstrate cultural sensitivity**
DW 8 Demonstrate proficiency and intercultural sensitivity in preparing, coordinating, and implementing communal celebrations which respect assemblies of various languages and cultural groups.

DW 9 Demonstrate familiarity with the richness of the devotional and sacramental life of the Church and guide its authentic celebration in a parish or broader context.

Competencies related to Music

DW 10 Demonstrate an understanding of the ritual, spiritual, and cultural dimensions of music as integral to the sacred liturgy, and demonstrate the ability to collaborate in evaluating its musical, liturgical, and pastoral appropriateness in a particular rite.

Competencies in Liturgical Formation

DW 11 Demonstrate development of parish programs for the effective formation, training, enrichment, supervision, and evaluation of liturgical ministers and a similar program for a parish worship committee.

DW 12 Give evidence of having created opportunities for liturgical catechesis: catechesis through liturgy, catechesis for liturgy, and the link between liturgy and social justice.

DW 13 Illustrate development of a comprehensive and long-range vision for parish liturgical life based on Church documents and directives.

Portfolio Requirements for Diocesan Director of Worship (DW)

1. A cover letter in which the applicant formally requests certification.
2. All initial application materials for admission to the certification process.
3. Written assessments by the candidate, supervisor, peer or colleague, subordinate, (arch)bishops or (arch)diocesan director.
4. Minimum 150 clock hours or 15 credits in five core theological disciplines. Equivalency may be demonstrated by a paper, examination, lecture, or other approved method.
5. Eighteen graduate credits in Liturgical Studies. Equivalency may be demonstrated by a paper, examination, lecture, or other approved method.
6. Evidence of successful preparation and execution of major parish or (arch)diocesan liturgical celebrations.
7. Integration paper that applies personal, spiritual, theological, pastoral and specialized competence to the practice of pastoral ministry.
8. A master’s degree from an accredited institution.
FDLC / Parish Director of Liturgy (DL) Specialized Competencies

The (arch)bishop is the chief liturgist of his (arch)diocese. He appoints the pastors and other ministers to care for the liturgical life of his people.

In collaboration with the Bishop and the pastor, a competent lay liturgist will prepare and execute liturgies with style and grace. He/she may also be responsible for the liturgical formation of the liturgical ministers and parish assemblies.

In addition to the competencies and standards listed above, the lay liturgist will be well formed in the study of Sacred Liturgy—its theology, its history, and its right praxis.

While it is assumed that one who directs an Office of Worship at an (arch)diocesan level will possess at least a master’s degree in liturgical studies from an accredited university program, the parish director of liturgy should also be adequately trained to fulfill his/her duties.

A parish director of liturgy will:

Demonstrate a knowledge of official liturgical documents and texts

DL 1 Demonstrate facility with the Church’s official liturgical books and be able to implement the various rites of the Church in their appropriate liturgical contexts.

DL 2 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of current legislation, documentation, and pastoral practice in order to prepare liturgical rites and celebrations.

DL 3 Demonstrate an ability to evaluate liturgical celebrations in fidelity to the official liturgical books and Catholic liturgical theology.

DL 4 Follow guidelines and policies in accord with universal and diocesan norms.

Demonstrate a knowledge of liturgical history

DL 5 Demonstrate an ability to explain the history of Catholic liturgy and the cultural contexts which impacted it.

Demonstrate a knowledge of the liturgical year

DL 6 Demonstrate an understanding of the Liturgical Year by appropriately celebrating the seasons, weeks, days, and hours of the year.

DL 7 Demonstrate a knowledge of the sanctoral cycle and its place within the liturgical year.

Demonstrate cultural sensitivity

DL 8 Demonstrate proficiency and intercultural sensitivity in preparing, coordinating, and implementing communal celebrations which respect assemblies of various languages and cultural groups.
DL 9  Demonstrate familiarity with the richness of the devotional and sacramental life of the Church and guide its authentic celebration in a parish or broader context.

Competencies related to Music

DL 10  Demonstrate an understanding of the ritual, spiritual, and cultural dimensions of music as integral to the sacred liturgy, and demonstrate the ability to collaborate in evaluating its musical, liturgical, and pastoral appropriateness in a particular rite.

Competencies in Liturgical Formation

DL 11  In collaboration with the (arch)diocesan Office of Worship, develop a parish program for the effective formation, training, enrichment, supervision, and evaluation of liturgical ministers.

DL 12  Create opportunities for liturgical catechesis: catechesis through liturgy, catechesis for liturgy, and the link between liturgy and social justice.

DL 13  With the pastor, develop a comprehensive and long-range vision for parish liturgical life based on Church documents and directives.

Portfolio Requirements for Parish Director of Liturgy (DL)

1. A cover letter in which the applicant formally requests certification.
2. All initial application materials for admission to the certification process.
3. Written assessments by the candidate, supervisor, peer or colleague, subordinate, (arch)bishop or (arch)diocesan director.
4. Minimum 150 clock hours or 15 credits in five core disciplines. Equivalency may be demonstrated by a paper, examination, lecture or other approved method.
5. Eighteen undergraduate credits in Liturgical Studies. Equivalency may be demonstrated by a paper, examination, lecture or other approved method.
6. Evidence of successful preparation and execution of major parish or (arch)diocesan liturgical celebrations.
7. Integration paper that applies personal, spiritual, theological, pastoral and specialized competence to the practice of pastoral ministry.
8. A bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution.
NALM / Parish Life Coordinator (PLC) Specialized Competencies

A parish life coordinator is a professional minister who is entrusted by the (arch)diocesan bishop with the pastoral care of a parish (Canon 517.2). In collaboration with a presbyteral moderator appointed by the (arch)diocesan bishop, the parish life coordinator has the responsibility of overseeing the entire Catholic community within a specific locale. The parish life coordinator enables and empowers the community to be a sign of the reality of the Kingdom of God.

A parish life coordinator will:

PLC 1 Exercise responsibility for coordinating the pastoral care of the parish in all of its dimensions: communal, liturgical, prophetic-catechetical, service, evangelization, and administration.

PLC 2 Exhibit a capacity for leadership and collaboration in all aspects of parish life and ministry including the skills required for supervising staff and the competencies appropriate to the diversity of the community.

PLC 3 Seek the guidance of parishioners as expressed by the pastoral council, the parish finance council, and other collaborative structures in the parish and/or region.

PLC 4 Foster the spiritual growth of all parishioners and encourage them to put their talents and their baptismal gifts/charisms at the service of others.

PLC 5 Integrate Catholic social teachings principles within ministry by incorporating opportunities for justice and service to the Church and broader community and provide theological reflection on those opportunities.

PLC 6 Develop a parish rich in worship and prayer in all of its dimensions by collaborating with the worship committee and the sacramental minister (Canon 517.2) in providing for the liturgical and sacramental life of the parish.

PLC 7 Promote the ministry of the word and preach effectively in appropriate pastoral settings in accord with national and (arch)diocesan norms.

PLC 8 Preside at liturgies, including Sunday celebrations in the absence of a priest, in accord with liturgical principles and national and (arch)diocesan norms.

PLC 9 Provide pastoral care and assistance to petitioners and respondents in marriage nullity cases.

PLC 10 Exercise effective pastoral care for the sick, the dying, and the grieving in the parish.

PLC 11 Initiate, develop, and support specialized pastoral ministries according to the needs of the parish community.

PLC 12 Collaborate in the catechesis and pastoral care of those preparing for sacraments and promote lifelong faith formation for all parishioners.

PLC 13 Collaborate effectively with organizations, (arch)diocesan and parish staffs and groups, parish lay ecclesial ministers, the presbyteral moderator, and the sacramental moderator (Canon 517.2).

PLC 14 Collaborate with the local (arch)diocese in a way that honors its vision for pastoral care of parishes, its programs for parish enrichment, its policies and procedures for parish administration, the sacramental moderator who represents the (arch)bishop and the (arch)diocese, and the deanery or regional structure in which the parish resides.

PLC 15 Ensure the observance of all applicable civil laws in accepted non-profit management practices.
PLC 16  Oversee the proper care for and use of parish’s facilities in accord with (arch)diocesan/eparchial norms and civil law.

Portfolio Requirements for Parish Life Coordinator (PLC)

1. A cover letter in which the applicant formally requests certification.
2. All initial application materials for admission to the certification process.
3. Written assessments by the candidate, supervisor, peer or colleague and subordinate.
4. Master’s degree in theology, pastoral ministry or allied field. Equivalency in one or more of the core theological areas may be demonstrated by a combination of research paper, lecture, or other approved method.
5. Evidence of successful leadership in a pastoral context (e.g., job description, programs, planning documents).
6. Integration paper that applies personal, spiritual, theological, pastoral and specialized competence to the practice of pastoral ministry.

NALM / Pastoral Associate (PA) Specialized Competencies

A pastoral associate is a professional minister who shares the overall care of the parish with the pastor or on-site pastoral team. He or she is a member of the parish staff, usually full-time, and is accountable to the pastor. The ministry of the pastoral associate is comprehensive, relating to all aspects of parish life, but with designated responsibilities, e.g., liturgy, faith formation and development, administration, pastoral care, or social outreach. The responsibilities assigned to the pastoral associate depend on the needs of the parish and the gifts of the pastoral associate as well as the gifts of other members of the pastoral staff.

A pastoral associate will:

PA 1  Exhibit a capacity for leadership and collaboration in all aspects of parish life and ministry including intercultural competencies appropriate to the diversity of the community.
PA 2  Recognize, address, respect, and assist with the implementation of the parish vision and mission.
PA 3  Foster the faith life of the community by providing opportunities that address the spiritual, moral, and lifelong formation of all parishioners.
PA 4  Promote evangelization as one of the primary activities of one’s ministry.
PA 5  Demonstrate a sensitivity to the diverse cultural concerns that affect the community and seeks ways to celebrate its cultural diversity.
PA 6  Engage in appropriate and effective communication with persons of cultures other than one’s own and recognize the need to develop intercultural competency.
PA 7  Integrate Catholic social teachings applications within ministry by incorporating opportunities for justice and service to the Church and broader community including theological reflection on those opportunities.
PA 8  Preach effectively in appropriate pastoral settings in accord with national and (arch)diocesan norms.

PA 9  Preside at liturgies and prayer services, including Sunday celebrations in the absence of a priest, in accord with liturgical principles and national and (arch)diocesan/eparchial norms.

PA 10 Provide pastoral care and assistance to petitioners and respondents in marriage nullity cases.

PA 11 Collaborate in the catechesis and pastoral care of those preparing for sacraments.

PA 12 Exercise effective pastoral care of the sick, the dying, and the grieving in the parish community.

PA 13 Initiate, develop, and support specialized pastoral ministries according to the needs of the parish community.

Portfolio Requirements for Pastoral Associate (PA)

1. A cover letter in which the applicant formally requests certification.
2. All initial application materials for admission to the certification process.
3. Written assessments by the candidate, supervisor, peer or colleague and subordinate.
4. Preferably a Master’s degree in theology, pastoral ministry or allied field. Minimum of 300 clock hours or 30 credits. Equivalency in one or more of the core theological areas may be demonstrated by a combination of research paper, lecture or other approved method.
5. Evidence of successful leadership in a pastoral context (e.g., job description programs, planning documents).
6. Integration paper that applies personal, spiritual, theological, pastoral and specialized competence to the practice of pastoral ministry.

NALM / Parish Business Manager (PBM) Specialized Competencies

The Parish Business Manager is responsible for the supervision and management of all financial activities, administrative functions, human resources, church properties and facilities, oversight of long-term improvement projects, and all related processes and systems for the parish. Under the general direction of the pastor, the Parish Business Manager provides efficient and professional business and facility management leadership with the purpose of allowing the pastor maximum freedom to provide pastoral care to the parish community, directing these efforts within a frame work of shared ministry and Catholic values consistent with the mission and purpose of the parish. This responsibility includes safeguarding Church assets, exercising prudence in financial matters, accountability to those who provide monetary support to the Church and to regulatory authorities, and compliance with all civil regulations. The Parish Business Manager generally participates in the hiring, training and supervision of parish staff and volunteers and administers employee benefits including insurance coverage, retirement plan, scheduling, and payroll functions in accordance with (arch)diocesan and parish policies.
A parish business manager will:

PBM 1 Demonstrate and maintain accountability and transparency to all applicable entities and individuals.
PBM 2 Apply accepted accounting practices (GAAP) for non-profit organizations.
PBM 3 Establish and manage comprehensive cash and asset management policies and procedures.
PBM 4 Apply wide-ranging Human Resource best practices and ensure compliance with (arch)diocesan, federal, state, and local laws and directives.
PBM 5 Coordinate care and maintenance of physical plant including working schedules, policies, and procedures guiding staff in applying stewardship principles and best practices.
PBM 6 Utilize the basic vocabulary and “temporal goods” section of Canon Law related to local diocesan norms in conjunction with civil law to assist with financial and temporal affairs related to parish goods and ministries.
PBM 7 Ensure that the parish technological resources are sufficient and administered to achieve the parish, (arch)diocesan and universal Church mission.
PBM 8 Understand and demonstrate the Catholic catechetical teachings related to stewardship.
PBM 9 Ensure that parish resources are allocated correctly to achieve the parish mission and work within fiscal means.
PBM 10 Integrate new technology trends and use or direct the use of these to ensure parish communications remain current and relevant.
PBM 11 Use wide-ranging processes to fulfil all Church, government, and other agency requirements for compliance-reporting and record-keeping.
PBM 12 Lead by personal example and Gospel values, supporting the pastor in setting high standards for leadership.

Portfolio Requirements for Parish Business Manager (PBM)

1. A cover letter in which the applicant formally requests certification.
2. All initial application materials for admission to the certification process.
3. Written assessments by the candidate, supervisor, peer or colleague and subordinate.
4. Minimum of 150 clock hours or 15 credits. Equivalency in one or more of the core theological areas may be demonstrated by a combination of research paper, lecture or other approved method.
5. Preferably at least a bachelor’s degree in accounting, finance, or business management or allied field. Evidence of study in non-profit management principles. Equivalency may be demonstrated by examination, paper, lecture or other approved method.
6. Evidence of successful leadership in a pastoral context (e.g., job description programs, planning documents).
7. Integration paper that applies personal, spiritual, theological, pastoral and specialized competence to the practice of pastoral ministry.
By virtue of baptism, all Christians are called to proclaim the Good News. The Spirit elects certain individuals and calls them to the specialized role of catechetical leader within the faith community. As competent catechetical leaders they collaborate with others to develop a culture of lifelong formation within their communities that enables each adult, youth and child to know and love Jesus Christ, and to grow as a disciple and a witness to the Gospel.

As such the catechetical leader will be well formed in the study of the Catholic faith and of catechesis—its theology, its history, and its right praxis.

A parish catechetical leader will:

PCL 1 Plan and evaluate catechetical ministry through the lens of evangelization, and ensure the centrality of catechesis in the development of the parish as an evangelizing community.

PCL 2 Direct the parish catechetical program through design, implementation, and evaluation to form disciples, teachers, and witnesses of the faith.

PCL 3 Embrace the catechumenate as model and inspiration for all catechesis.

PCL 4 Collaborate with stakeholders – pastor, staff, school personnel, appropriate Committees and boards – to develop a comprehensive lifelong vision and plan for parish catechesis, based on ecclesial catechetical documents and correlated with the parish and (arch)diocesan vision.

PCL 5 Ensure that catechesis is age-appropriate, sensitive to diverse cultural backgrounds, responsive to learning styles across the lifespan, and adapted to those with disabilities.

PCL 6 Develop and implement parish catechetical policies in accord with (arch)diocesan policies and guidelines.

PCL 7 Recognize and support parents in their role as the first educators of their children, implement programs that engage the family as an essential partner, and champion the family as domestic church.

PCL 8 Recruit, form, and evaluate parish catechists, supporting them in their development as disciples, teachers, and witnesses of the faith.

PCL 9 Provide orientation and in-servicing of catechetical committee members and formation teams in their areas of responsibility.

PCL 10 Exercise effective supervision of catechetical employees, catechists, and volunteers while fostering leadership abilities.

PCL 11 Select effective catechetical resources, programs and processes, appropriate to particular audiences, in accord with national and (arch)diocesan guidelines, and utilizing suitable technology.

PCL 12 Manage communications, maintain records, administer a budget, and advocate for resources and parish support for catechetical ministry.
Portfolio Requirements for Parish Catechetical Leader (PCL)

1. A cover letter in which the applicant formally requests certification.
2. All initial application materials for admission to the certification process.
3. Written assessments by the candidate, supervisor, peer or colleague and subordinate
4. Preferably a graduate degree in catechesis, religious education, theology or allied field. Minimum of 30 credits or 300 clock hours in theological or ministerial disciplines, documented by transcripts, diplomas or certificated from higher education, diocesan formation or other training institutes. Within total credits, clock hours or a degree, a minimum of 120 clock hours or 12 credits distributed among four or more theological disciplines.
5. Minimum of 120 hours or 12 credits of study, training and formation in catechesis and/or religious education (e.g., catechetical theory, documents, and methodologies.)
6. Four to six items of evidence for each core standard and for the specialized competencies. Evidence of successful leadership in a catechetical context (e.g., job description, meeting, outlines, program brochures).
7. Integration paper that applies personal, spiritual, theological, pastoral and specialized competence to the practice of pastoral ministry.

NCCL / Parish Director of Evangelization (PDE) Specialized Competencies

A parish director of evangelization is a member of the parish staff who gives direction to evangelization efforts in the parish community. These efforts attend to the active community, to inactive Catholics, and to the unchurched, and therefore involve renewal and formation ministries within the parish, and outreach and welcome toward those not active or connected with the Church. A parish director of evangelization aims to foster conversion and growth in discipleship among the faithful, to develop a welcoming community, to animate and equip parishioners to evangelize, and to accompany seekers or returning Catholics. As such, the ministry requires leadership skills, a deep knowledge of the Catholic faith, an ability to provide formation, competent communication, and an ability to foster collaboration.

A parish director of evangelization will:

PDE 1 Collaborate with other staff, pastor, and appropriate councils and committees to articulate a vision.
PDE 2 Plan and implement strategies to reach active parishioners, inactive Catholics, and the unchurched in the community.
PDE 3 Demonstrate knowledge and familiarity with the vision, goals, principles, and components of evangelization as outlined in the U.S. bishops’ pastoral plans and related Church documents.
PDE 4 Design and coordinate adult inquiry and faith formation opportunities.
PDE 5 Animate, equip and organize parishioners to evangelize by witness, words and action.
PDE 6 Recruit and provide formation for volunteers and ministry leaders for evangelization and adult formation events.
PDE 7 Coordinate or cooperate in parish ministries of outreach, welcome and renewal, such as: hospitality ministry, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, new member welcome, returning Catholics ministry, parish missions, or parish community-building events.

PDE 8 Demonstrate an understanding of the dynamics of Christian conversion, faith development, and disciple-making.

PDE 9 Collaborate with other parish leaders to collect and analyze data for pastoral planning, for example, parish census, needs assessment, interest surveys, or area demographic research.

PDE 10 Utilize multiple means of digital and print communication (web, bulletin, newsletter, social media), creating engaging and creative content, enhancing communication with parishioners and with the public beyond.

Portfolio Requirements for Parish Director of Evangelization (PDE)

1. A cover letter in which the applicant formally requests certification.
2. All initial application materials for admission to the certification process.
3. Written assessments by the candidate, supervisor, peer or colleague and subordinate.
4. Preferably a graduate degree in ministry, theology or allied field. Minimum of 30 credits or 300 clock hours in theological or ministerial disciplines, documented by transcripts, diplomas or certificates from higher education, diocesan formation or other training institutes. Within total credits, or a degree, a minimum of 120 clock hours or 12 credits distributed among four or more theological disciplines.
5. Minimum of 120 hours or 12 credits of study, training and formation in evangelization, catechesis, human development, communications and/or stewardship.
6. Four to six items of evidence for each core standard and for the specialized competencies. Evidence of successful leadership in evangelization (e.g., job description, strategic plan for evangelization, program brochures or reports).
7. Integration paper that applies personal, spiritual, theological, pastoral and specialized competence to the practice of pastoral ministry.
NFCYM / Youth Ministry Leader, including Pastoral Juvenil Hispana and/or High School Campus Ministry Leader (YML) Specialized Competencies

A lay ecclesial minister serving as a youth ministry leader is responsible for overseeing ministerial efforts directed to all the Catholic youth (adolescentes in Spanish) in a parish, a school, and/or a community-based setting and is pastorally responsive to the ethnic and cultural makeup and needs of the disabled in that community.

- An important and unique form of ministry in the United States is pastoral juvenil Hispana (PJH), which serves unmarried youth and young adults, often together. Ministry with Hispanic young people requires the competencies presented below for all youth ministry leaders (YML 1.0-4.1.12) plus those specific for pastoral juvenil Hispana (PJH 4.2.1-4.2.6).
- Ministry in the Catholic High School setting requires the competencies listed below for all youth ministry leaders (YML 1.0-4.1.12) plus those specific for campus ministry leader (CML 4.4).
- Diocesan youth ministry leaders are required to follow the YML competencies and the DYML competencies and may need to consider the PJH and CML competencies.

A youth ministry/pastoral juvenil Hispana/campus ministry leader will:

YML 1.0 Understand the history, mission, vision, goals, principles, themes, components, and dimensions of Catholic youth ministry and/or pastoral juvenil Hispana as outlined in the U.S. bishops’ pastoral plans and related Church documents.

YML 2.0 Identify the developmental needs of youth and young adults in the U.S. context, with its particular popular, ethnic, and family subcultures, as appropriate to the faith community being served.

YML 3.0 Apply the theories, models, processes, methods, resources, and best practices of Catholic youth ministry and/or pastoral juvenil Hispana as appropriate to the ministry setting including parish, school and community programs, among others.

YML 4.0 Collaborate with the faith community in planning, implementing, and evaluating outreach to and pastoral ministry for young people, utilizing the components of Catholic youth ministry and/or mission and principles of pastoral juvenil Hispana as appropriate to the ministry setting.

YML 4.1 Be capable of implementing comprehensive Catholic youth ministry with young people by:

4.1.1 Utilizing the aims, principles, processes, and methods of catechesis set forth in the foundational catechetical documents to implement faith formation in the context of adolescent culture and development.

4.1.2 Facilitating the development of community among youth, their families, and within the Church and society, including the development of small faith communities by youth from different cultures, spiritualities, or pastoral models.

4.1.3 Inviting youth to and facilitating opportunities for youth to grow in intimate relationship with Jesus Christ and empowering them to live and witness as missionary disciples in today’s world especially to their peers.
4.1.4 Engaging youth in the social mission of the Church in accord with Catholic social teaching, taking into account the personal, sociocultural and religious reality of the young people.

4.1.5 Fostering healing and promoting healthy growth and development in youth and in their relationships as a vital part of their human and Christian maturity process.

4.1.6 Empowering youth to celebrate and deepen their relationship with the triune God through individual and communal prayer and participation in the liturgical and devotional life of the Church and through popular religious devotions.

4.1.7 Engaging the Church and the broader community in voicing and addressing the rights, responsibilities, and needs of youth of diverse backgrounds without prejudice for their race, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, creed, national origin, immigration status, socio-economic status, political beliefs, and ethnicity.

4.1.8 Affirming and calling forth the unique gifts of youth and the adults serving them by providing opportunities for their ongoing spiritual growth and leadership development.

4.1.9 Developing awareness of and supporting youth to consider the various vocations, priesthood, consecrated life or marriage as paths of discipleship in the Church.

4.1.10 Accompanying the young people in their development as whole persons through processes that integrate all the dimensions of life and faith, as they move from preadolescence to adolescence and young adulthood.

4.1.11 Curating resources and using appropriate digital platforms to evangelize, catechize, form community, collaborate and communicate within and outside of the faith community.

4.1.12 Building knowledge and skill for working with and within the diverse cultures in the ministry setting and wider community.

PJH 4.2 Be capable of implementing the mission and principles of pastoral juvenil Hispana with young people by:

4.2.1 Fostering a “pastoral de conj unto” across organized ministries and pastoral juvenil Hispana committees (i.e., catechesis, sports/recreation, prayer, Scripture study, choir, drama, dance, prevention, intervention, academic assistance, etc.), geographies (intra-parish, inter-parish, (arch)diocesan, regional, national, international), groups, communities, and movements.

4.2.2 Recognizing and fostering the gifts and protagonism* of adolescents and jóvenes in pastoral juvenil Hispana and in the mission of the Church in their homes, neighborhoods, and wider community.

4.2.3 Nurturing the preservation of the Spanish language and cultural traditions, values, and customs in order to promote a sound Latino-integrated-with-Catholic identity through an evangelizing process.

4.2.4 Creating pastoral models and open ecclesial spaces that are linguistically and socioculturally appropriate for Latino adolescents and jóvenes of diverse backgrounds, based on a pastoral plan that responds to their needs, in a Church that is a community of communities with shared leadership and vision.
4.2.5 Promoting academic education among Latino young people; offering means to help them reach a high school diploma, decreasing the high level of Latino drop outs, increasing attendance in higher education, and guiding young people toward greater personal and professional achievement.

(* Protagonism: This concept is essential in pastoral juvenil; it indicates that young people are the main pastoral agents among their peers, and that the role of adults is to empower them by: (a) helping them assume their baptismal call; (b) accompanying them in their faith journey; (c) advising them in their efforts of ministering to their peers; and (d) supporting them as they undertake and fulfill their call to evangelize their contemporaries and transform their social environment according to gospel values, as indicated in many Church documents.)

As a member of the high school campus staff and community a campus ministry leader (CML) will have the necessary competencies to oversee, assess, develop, model, promote and lead Catholic ministry to high school youth and advocate for the mission or charism of the high school being served.

A High School campus ministry leader, in addition to the YML competencies 1.0-4.1.12, will:

**CML 4.4 Implement the mission and principles of campus ministry in a high school setting by:**

4.4.1 Understand the history and mission of Catholic schools in the United States, the role that Diocesan and religious order schools play in local, state, and national communities, and the importance of working collaboratively with faculty, staff and administration.

4.4.2 Plan, coordinate, oversee, and lead retreats that are developmentally and theologically appropriate for the students being served.

4.4.3 Plan, prepare, coordinate and oversee liturgy, sacraments and prayer services in the school community, in accord with Church teaching, law, local norms and best practices.

4.4.4 Create pastoral models and open ecclesial spaces that are linguistically and socio-culturally appropriate for adolescents of diverse backgrounds, including those who are not Catholic or Christian.

**Portfolio Requirements for Youth Ministry Leader with Pastoral Juvenil Hispana and/or High School Campus Ministry Leader (YML)**

1. A cover letter in which the applicant formally requests certification.
2. All initial application materials for admission to the certification process.
3. Written assessments by the candidate, supervisor, peer or colleague, subordinate, (arch)diocesan director.
4. Minimum 120 clock hours or 12 credits in four core disciplines (see Theological Competencies), with the remainder totaling no fewer than 240 hours to be completed before the first renewal of certification. Equivalency may be demonstrated by a paper, examination, lecture or other approved method by providing certificates or diplomas and transcripts from (arch)diocesan, national or foreign pastoral institutes.
5. Ninety hours of training and formation in youth ministry and/or pastoral juvenil Hispana (PJH). For PJH candidates, additional evidence of knowledge and skill in various aspects of Hispanic ministry. For High School Campus Ministry Leader candidates, additional evidence of knowledge and skill in various aspects of campus ministry.

6. Four to six items of evidence for each core standard and the specialized YML, DYML, PJH or CML competencies (see list of preferred types of documents found in the Certification Handbook). A sample presentation on the vision, mission and overview of youth ministry in the parish, school or ministry setting. (This could be an outline, pamphlet, schedule, presentation or other method that communicates and advocates the ministry to others.)

7. Integration paper that applies personal, spiritual, theological, pastoral and specialized competence to the practice of pastoral ministry.

**NFCYM / Diocesan Youth Ministry Leader (DYML) Specialized Competencies**

As an agent of the local ordinary, a(n) (arch)diocesan youth ministry leader (DYML) has the necessary competencies to oversee, assess, develop, model, and promote Catholic youth ministry and/or Pastoral Juvenil Hispana as appropriate to the local culture(s) and demographics of the (arch)diocese.

A diocesan youth ministry leader, in addition to the YML 1.0-4.1.12 competencies, will:

**DYML 4.3.1** Develop, implement, and oversee (arch)diocesan policies and procedures regarding child safety/protection and ministerial ethics in accord with the *USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.*

**DYML 4.3.2** Design, organize, and implement gathered youth ministry programming, including retreats, conferences, rallies, pilgrimages, etc for youth in the diocese.

**DYML 4.3.3** Provide consultation, training and resources for comprehensive parish youth ministry, including pastoral juvenil Hispana.

**DYML 4.3.4** Cultivate volunteers through professional youth ministry leadership, including applying best practices in hiring.

**DYML 4.3.5** Develop and lead pastoral planning for youth ministry in accord with (arch)diocesan priorities, structures, policies, procedures, and resources.

**DYML 4.3.6** Lead and manage an (arch)diocesan office, including supervision of staff, managing a budget, and collaborating with other (arch)diocesan offices and departments.

**Portfolio Requirements for Diocesan Youth Ministry Leader (DYML)**

1. A cover letter in which the applicant formally requests certification.
2. All initial application materials for admission to the certification process.
3. Written assessments by the candidate, supervisor, peer or colleague and subordinate.
4. Preferably a master’s degree in theology, pastoral ministry or allied field. Equivalency in one or more of the core theological areas may be demonstrated by a combination of research paper, lecture or other approved method or by providing certificates or diplomas and transcripts from (arch)diocesan, national or foreign pastoral institutes.
5. One hundred twenty hours of training and formation in youth ministry and/or Pastoral
Juvenil Hispana (PJH). For PJH candidates, additional evidence of knowledge and skill in various aspects of Hispanic ministry.

6. Four to six items of evidence for each core standard and the specialized YML, DYML, PJH or CML competencies (see list of preferred types of documents found in the Certification Handbook). A sample presentation on Catholic youth ministry and/or Pastoral Juvenil Hispana.

7. Integration paper that applies personal, spiritual, theological, pastoral and specialized competence to the practice of pastoral ministry.

NPM / Director of Music Ministries (DMM) Specialized Competencies

The parish or (arch)diocesan director of music ministries is the person who organizes and directs the program of sacred music for the liturgical and devotional life of the parish or (arch)diocese under the direction of the pastor or (arch)bishop and in collaboration with the pastoral staff.

In addition to the competencies and standards listed above, the director will be well formed in the art of music and study of liturgy.

A director of music ministries will:

DMM 1 Demonstrate knowledge of music theory and harmony, including basic understandings of orchestration, counterpoint, and harmonic analysis.

DMM 2 Have knowledge of and competency in the historical treasury, contemporary body, and multicultural expressions of church music and demonstrate skills to use them effectively within the worship life of the parish or diocesan community.

DMM 3 Demonstrate knowledge of liturgical history, legislation, documentation, and current pastoral and cultural practices in order to prepare liturgical rites and celebrations.

DMM 4 Demonstrate knowledge of the rites of the Church and their theological underpinnings for preparing and planning parish and diocesan prayer and liturgical celebrations.

DMM 5 Promote and develop the art of music as an integral and necessary part of the sacred liturgy and as a constitutive element of the Catholic faith experience.

DMM 6 Demonstrate skills in leading congregational song, choral conducting, and at least one other musical specialization (organ, piano, guitar, voice).

DMM 7 Develop parish music and liturgy guidelines and policies in accord with universal and (arch)diocesan norms.

DMM 8 Develop a comprehensive and long-range vision for the parish music and liturgical life based on Church documents and directives and sensitivity to intercultural needs in order to promote full, conscious, and active participation of all the people.

DMM 9 Recognize, motivate, and empower musical talent and skills from the parish community with special attention to children, youth, and young adults.

Portfolio Requirements for Director of Music Ministries (DMM)

1. A cover letter in which the applicant formally requests certification.

2. All initial materials for admission to the certification process.
3. Written assessments by the candidate supervisor, peer or colleague and subordinate.
4. Minimum 120 clock hours or 12 credits in four core disciplines, with the remainder totaling no fewer than 240 hours to be completed before the first renewal of certification. Equivalency may be demonstrated by a paper, examination, lecture or other approved method.
5. Preferably a master’s degree in liturgical music or related disciplines. Minimum of 18 graduate hours of musical study. Equivalency may be demonstrated by examination, paper, lecture or other approved method.
6. Four to six items of evidence for each core standard and the specialized competencies. Evidence of successful completion of a juried recital or concert in one’s area of musical concentration.