

Holy Cross

diaconate program

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Diaconate Program is an educational and formational initiative of the Holy Eparchial Synod of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology.

The faculty of Holy Cross offers a One-week summer educational session each year. The Diaconate Program is a three-year educational program, but students may take up to six years to complete the program. Students are required to complete a total of three one-week sessions and complete the testing of the on-line curriculum required for completion of the program. Admission into the Diaconate Program is a prerequisite for participation in the summer educational sessions. The program consists of four main components:

- (1) Three nine day summer educational sessions held on the campus of Holy Cross;
- (2) affiliation with a metropolis clergy mentor and participation in a local parish setting throughout the duration of the program to be determined by the local Metropolitan
- (3) participation in Metropolis-based Fellowship groups to reinforce and enhance students' understanding of core topics and skill proficiency along with the writing of papers based on personal readings supervised by the faculty of Holy Cross. Each Metropolitan of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America serves as overseer for the students enrolled in the Diaconate Program who reside within his Metropolis; and
- (4) Alumni events, Outreach, and continuing education

Persons from other jurisdictions may apply to participate in this program.

The deadline for registration is July 1st

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

All of the following are taken into consideration in judging qualifications for admission.

- Completed Application form
- \$75 Application Fee
- Bachelor's Degree or its equivalent
- Current Resume
- Letter of recommendation from one's Metropolitan including the name of a local clergyman who will serve as mentor
- Priest's Recommendation
- CORI/SORI Forms (contact HCHC)
- 2 passport size photos of yourself

Once application materials are submitted to Holy Cross, they become the permanent record of Holy Cross and may not be returned to the applicant. Completed applications for the Diaconate Program should be sent to the Office of Admissions at Holy Cross. Students should acknowledge in their application whether they will be participating in this summer's educational sessions. Students who cannot participate in this year's summer sessions are still encouraged to complete an application for the Diaconate Program.

Admission into and successful completion of the Diaconate Program is not a guarantee of future ordination. In the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, candidates for ordination are determined by the local Metropolitan who forwards a recommendation to the Archbishop. Upon successful completion of the program, students will receive a Certificate of Study. Those considering studying for the holy priesthood should apply for the Master of Divinity degree program at Holy Cross.