



Diocesan NFP Program Endorsement, Step 1

NFP Program, Secretariat for Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; 3211 4th St., NE, Washington, DC 20017; 202-541-3240; nfp@usccb.org

(Arch)Diocese: _____ Date: _____

NFP Coordinator (print name and email): _____

Section I, Standards for Diocesan NFP Ministry

Diocesan NFP Ministry--Definition

Diocesan NFP ministry provides instruction in natural methods of fertility appreciation, management, and education in accord with Catholic teaching. It strives to accompany couples as they learn and live the NFP lifestyle. NFP ministry is integrated into the structure of the diocese with an NFP coordinator appointed by the bishop, as well as NFP teachers who are accountable to and work in cooperation with the NFP coordinator. The primary focus of diocesan NFP ministry is to provide quality NFP services to married and engaged couples.

A secondary focus of diocesan NFP ministry is to provide outreach education within the diocese to appropriate groups regarding human sexuality (including male and female complementarity), the virtue of chastity, the proper formation of conscience, the nature of marriage, conjugal love and responsible parenthood, the value of children, and the importance of the family especially as the foundation of society and the domestic church.

(Standards for Diocesan NFP Ministry, Section I)

Mission, Goals and Objectives

This form corresponds to the first phase of the evaluation. It examines the (arch)diocesan NFP ministry's mission statement, goals, and objectives. It should be completed to document compliance with the letter indicated in Section I of the Standards for Diocesan NFP Ministry (hereafter, Standards). The relevant text from the Standards is provided below. Please read the text and the following request to document your response. Follow the instructions and where requested, attach the appropriate documentation. Please note, all documentation should be current (within the last 12 months). For diocesan NFP coordinators who are formally taking part in the external review, contact your assigned NFP mentor for guidance. If further assistance is needed, contact the NFP Program (NFPP) at nfp@usccb.org; 1-202-541-3240.

Diocesan NFP ministry has . . .

- A. A statement of program philosophy that includes acceptance and promotion of Catholic teaching on human sexuality (including male and female complementarity), the virtue of chastity, the proper formation of conscience, the nature of marriage, conjugal love and responsible parenthood, the value of children, and the importance of the family especially as the foundation of society and the domestic church as articulated in authoritative Church documents (see Appendix A). This philosophy is achieved through program goals and objectives.

1. Attach a copy of the diocesan NFP program's statement of philosophy.

NB: The statement of program philosophy is the mission statement of the diocesan NFP program. It should briefly articulate the values of Catholic teaching as stated in standard A above and clearly express how NFP education supports these Catholic beliefs.

2. Strong NFP ministry has a strategy to accomplish specific goals. Attach a copy of the diocesan NFP program's current goals and objectives.