

Background Checks, Screening and Anticipated Costs for congregations, aspirants, postulants and seminarians Diocese of Louisiana

Initial Background Check

Once a Rector determines that an inquirer is in a position to meet with the Bishop and subsequently that a discernment committee will be formed, a basic background check should be conducted. This does not take the place of the full Oxford Documents check that is conducted later in the process. For this initial check, we recommend the Praesidium Package. The cost of this is \$30 and is paid for by the sponsoring parish. Information on this can be found at: <http://website.praesidiuminc.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Background-Checks-no-pricing.pdf>

Medical/Psychological/Background Checks Required for Postulancy

At the conclusion of the aspirant's discernment and if the Bishop determines that the aspirant can move forward in the process, the following documentation/screenings are required. Determination of who pays the balance of the medical/psychological/background checks should be discussed between the aspirant/Rector and Vestry. There is an expectation that the sponsoring parish will assume the majority of these expenses.

Required Medical Examination

This report is completed and returned to the Canon to the Ordinary in the New Orleans office by the doctor you choose to visit for your medical examination. The Diocese will reimburse you for ½ of the cost that is not covered by insurance. If you pay the bill, submit your paid receipt to the Diocese for reimbursement. If you submit the bill to the Diocese for payment, we will ask you to pay the Diocese ½ of the cost.

Mental Health Evaluations

Appointments are made with F. Charles Frey, Ph.D., for your mental health examination. Dr. Frey can be reached at 225-937-1449. His mailing address is 1326 Meadow Lea Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808. You will meet with Dr. Frey in the Diocesan office in Baton Rouge, 205 N. Fourth St.

Life History Questionnaire

A Life History Questionnaire is completed and sent to Dr. Frey **before** you are scheduled to meet with him. The Life History Questionnaire remains in Dr. Frey's custody. It is **not** sent to the Bishop.

Behavior Screening Questionnaire

A Behavioral Screening Questionnaire is completed. One copy is sent to Dr. Frey **before** you are scheduled to meet with him. Send the second copy to the Canon to the Ordinary in the New Orleans office.

Required Mental Health Evaluation

This form is to be completed by Dr. Frey. This is given to Dr. Frey at your appointment and he will send it to the Canon to the Ordinary in the New Orleans office.

The cost of Dr. Frey's examination is \$932.00 of which the Diocese will pay \$150.00 and you pay \$782.00. Your portion (\$782.00) is due to be paid **to the Diocese** before your appointment. The Diocese will pay Dr. Frey's bill. If your medical insurance covers the cost of this examination, it is up to you to seek reimbursement. Dr. Frey's office will not file an insurance claim.

Release for Background Check

A background check release form is completed and sent to the Bishop. Criminal, credit and driving background checks are done for everyone hoping to be ordained in the Diocese of Louisiana.

Background checks through Oxford Documents typically cost around \$150.

Summary of Costs

Costs for aspirant/postulant/parish

Initial background check	\$30
Mental Health Evaluation (balance after Diocese pays)	\$782
Medical Evaluation (variable based on insurance/Diocese pays ½ of balance)	\$100
Oxford Document Screening	\$150
*COM/Conference on Ministry (January)/Overnight fees/travel	\$200
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TOTAL	\$1,262

Support from the Diocese

Mental Health Evaluation	\$150
Medical Evaluation (variable)	\$100
*Travel/COM costs once in seminary/Overnight fees/travel to the SECC	\$450
Seminary support per year	\$8000
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TOTAL	\$8,700