

## VIRTUS/PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN FOR ADULTS FAQ'S

- What is a Safe Environment Program?  
A Safe Environment Program details ways by which entities may create and maintain a safe environment for children. The program selected by the Catholic Diocese of Richmond is, *Protecting God's Children for Adults* provided by VIRTUS.
- What is VIRTUS Training?  
VIRTUS is the brand name for the safe environment program used by the Catholic Diocese of Richmond. This is in accordance with the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, article 12. The VIRTUS training program used in the diocese is *Protecting God's Children for Adult*. This is session for adults to learn ways to protect children from child sexual abuse.
- Who is required to attend Virtus?  
All employees, clergy and volunteers working with minors are required to attend a VIRTUS session.
- How do I get information on Virtus?  
Information regarding VIRTUS is available at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) or at <http://www.richmonddiocese.org/VirtusTraining.htm>.
- How do I register?  
To register go to <http://www.richmonddiocese.org/VirtusTraining.htm>. When registering, be sure to list the parish or school you are affiliated with. If you do not have computer access, please ask your parish/school for assistance.
- When do I need to complete Virtus?  
VIRTUS training should be completed before you begin your volunteer role or at point of hire.
- What if I have attended a Virtus session in another diocese?  
Please contact VIRTUS at 1-888-847-8870 to have your training information transferred to the Catholic Diocese of Richmond. Note, when calling VIRTUS provide the customer service representative with a current email address, home address and phone number.

- What if I have taken a similar sexual abuse training class?  
Per Diocesan Regulations, volunteers, employees and clergy are required to attend a VIRTUS session.
  
- Is there follow-up required?  
Yes, monthly online bulletins are sent to your account or information can be printed and provided to you at your request. A reminder is sent by email each month notifying you of the bulletin posting.
  
- Are there age restrictions?  
VIRTUS sessions are designed for those over the age of 18. Individuals age 16 and 17 can attend with written permission from their parents.
  
- How will my parish or school know I have attended?  
Shortly after attendance, your name will appear in the VIRTUS database. When registering be sure to list the parish and or school location(s) you are affiliated with.
  
- Do I have to take the training more than once?  
Attendance at a training session is required one time.

