

How do we sign up?

Apply online by going to:

<https://www.dosp.org/convalidation-application>

After completing the application, you will be directed to another site to submit online payment.

*Please make sure both of your schedules
are free of other commitments
before signing up*

How do we know if we're confirmed?

After your application is processed, an email is sent to each provided address which will include an attachment with a confirmation letter. The letter provides details not addressed in this brochure and will acknowledge the sessions for which you are registered.

NOTE...

While there could always be an exception, applications are usually processed within a few days of being submitted. Upon doing so, a confirmation letter will be sent as an attachment to each email address included on the registration form.

Since this is coming from an unknown sender with a "dot org" extension, some servers might consider this SPAM. If your INBOX doesn't show confirmation within **2 weeks of submitting your paperwork**, please **check your junk mail folder**. After looking in both locations, if you still don't have confirmation, **please contact our office**.

Where does the program take place?

*Sessions are typically held
in St. Petersburg*

On very rare occasions we may have to switch the location of one or more sessions. To avoid any confusion the address and any specific facility details will be included in the confirmation letter.

What is include?

The registration fee covers all program costs, materials, and continental breakfast.

What are the times?

Each session begins promptly at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 12 noon.

What if we have to cancel/postpone?

Regardless of circumstances, once the application is processed the following applies:

- ◆ Couples can postpone without penalty as long as notice is received **7 or more days** prior to the applicable session.
- ◆ Each session that is postponed without the required advance notice is subject to a **\$25.00 rescheduling fee**.
- ◆ A **\$25.00 fee** applies to each occurrence that a couple is a no-show and needs to reschedule.
- ◆ Complete cancellations are eligible for a 50% refund providing **notice is received in writing 7 or more days before the first scheduled session**.
- ◆ Once a couple begins the process, the remaining balance for unattended sessions is forfeited.

Office of Marriage & Family Life

E-mail: deb@dosp.org

Phone: 727 – 341 – 6847

8:30 to 5:00 - Mon. thru Fri.

E-mail is the best way to contact us!

Convalidation 2024

*Preparation for
civilly married couples
seeking the
Sacrament of Matrimony*



*Office of Marriage & Family Life
Diocese of St. Petersburg*

The Convalidation Program is a series of half-day lecture-style workshops. Each session is presented by a marriage and family therapist or licensed mental health counselor.

Session 1 - Family of Origins

Discover ways in which your marriage commitment is influenced by experiences you had growing up in your family; identify how your relationship with parents and siblings play a role in the way you establish and maintain attachments. Become aware of the impact former relationship problems can have on your marriage. Learn from the past...and let the past work for you. As you strive to identity as a married couple, you will have a better understanding and appreciation of how relationships and experiences from the past can contribute to the present by enhancing your marriage.

Session 2 - Communication

This workshop will help couples identify obstacles to and enhancers of effective communication. Learn how to problem solve and communicate in an affirming and loving way and identify styles of communication that go toward compatibility and incompatibility. Discover practical pathways to effective problem solving, identify the basic languages in which couples communicate, and improve listening skills.

Session 3 – The Many Moods of Marriage

Navigating through the “many moods of marriage” can be a major challenge that all couples face. Learn more about commitment, intimacy, trust, and other obstacles that can affect a marital relationship. This session will focus on ways to strengthen and enrich marriage and avoid the possible pitfalls that can cause conflict.

Session 4 - Blended Families

There are many tasks needed for a successful integration and blending of two families into one. This workshop will cover issues that include overcoming loyalty issues, co-parenting, myths, and legends about stepparents, discipline strategies, and starting and establishing rituals and traditions as a new family unit. The Brady Bunch is only a TV show -- the real thing takes a lot of planning, understanding and hard work.

2024
Dates and Application Deadlines

Session 1

January	13	Deadline	1/5/24
June	8	Deadline	5/24/24
September	14	Deadline	8/30/24

Session 2

January	27	Deadline	1/12/24
June	22	Deadline	6/7/24
September	28	Deadline	9/13/24

Session 3

February	10	Deadline	1/26/24
July	13	Deadline	6/28/24
October	12	Deadline	9/27/24

Session 4

March	2	Deadline	2/16/24
July	27	Deadline	7/12/24
October	26	Deadline	10/11/24

A Helpful Suggestion. . .

It's better to submit the application and payment rather than contacting us to check availability. Should space be very limited, the time spent waiting for a response could be the difference between whether we can confirm your preferred date(s) or not.

The fees and penalties outlined in this brochure don't go into effect until your paperwork is processed, therefore there is no risk of losing money prior to being confirmed.

Application Details

- ◆ To complete this process, the husband and wife **must attend all applicable sessions together**. Please contact us if you are not able to do so.
- ◆ **All couples are required to attend Sessions 1, 2, and 3.** Those with **minor/dependent children** from a previous relationship **are also required to attend Session 4.**
- ◆ The program doesn't have to be taken in order, therefore you're welcome to begin with any session.
- ◆ Those who attend as required receive a certificate upon completing their final session.
- ◆ Regardless of age or circumstances, we are **UNABLE TO ACCOMMODATE CHILDREN.** Please make alternate arrangements for their care while you're with us.

What is the cost to attend?

Prior to the deadline:

- \$145.00* - 4 sessions (if required)**
- \$120.00* - 3 sessions**

After the deadline:

- \$165.00* - 4 sessions (if required)**
- \$140.00* - 3 sessions**

* All penalties outlined in this brochure go into effect once your application is processed and a confirmation letter is generated.

Those with financial difficulties should contact **deb@dosp.org**