Sheil Catholic Center
at Northwestern University

Sheil School of Religion: Requirements for Confirmation

Programatic Overview: Per the Archdiocese of Chicago's Guidelines for Sacramental Preparation, the length of sacramental preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation shall be a minimum of two years for adolescent candidates. Thus, the Sheil School of Religion is moving away from categorizing its students seeking Confirmation by grade level, and instead by notation of "Confirmation 1" and "Confirmation 2." For those students who are in their first year of Confirmation preparation, they will be part of the class of Confirmation 1. For students who have already completed one year of confirmation prep, they will be part of the class of Confirmation 2.

Programatic Requirements: With each year of sacramental preparation, the Archdiocese requires specific annual goals met. Sheil students preparing for confirmation are expected to participate in the following:

- **Service Hours**
  - 10 hours of service for Confirmation 1
  - 20 hours of service for Confirmation 2
- **Annual Retreat**
  - Presence at the annual retreat through both years of Confirmation Preparation
    - *Confirmation Retreat 2027 will be March 31, 2027, from 4:30pm-9pm at the Sheil Catholic Center*
- **A letter to the Bishop**
  - To be covered at the Confirmation Retreat
- **Class Attendance**
  - The Sheil School of Religion will host 24 classes in the 2026-2027 academic year. Atttendance requirements are:
    - 18 Classes for those in Confirmation 1
    - 20 Classes for those in Confirmation 2
  - We understand that emergencies do arise, and will be flexible with last-minute or long-term absences as needed in discernment with SSR leadership..
- **Completion of Sacramental Paperwork**
  - In order to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, we must submit copies of the students' Batismal and First Holy Communion Certificates as well as the sacramental record form.