

ACTS SPIRITUAL COMPANION FORMATION PROGRAM
OBLATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
2022

The ACTS Spiritual Companion Formation program at Oblate School of Theology is a two-part formation program for men and women to fill the role of spiritual companion for ACTS retreats. The first part consists of two academic semesters concentrating on basic elements of intellectual, spiritual, pastoral and human formation. The second part offers a mentored practicum experience which requires the students to serve on an ACTS retreat as a spiritual companion from team formation through the retreat. In addition to having the skills to help guide an ACTS team, graduates of ASC typically experience a deepening of their faith, an increased appreciation for the Catholic Church and a call to assist other parish ministries.

The program is a two-part (two years in most cases) certificate formation program.

- First part (Fall and Spring semesters) being comprised of
 - class room lectures on various topics, including: Church history, Sacred Scripture, Christology, Sacramental Theology, Moral Theology, Pastoral Listening, Liturgy, Ecclesiology and Christian Prayer and Spirituality;
 - Class assignments
 - course readings (3 books);
 - preparation of prayer experiences;
 - preparation of theological reflections and Sacraments Talk;
 - retreats (opening retreat; mid-year day retreat and closing retreat).
- Second part (length of time depends on retreat circumstances) is a supervised practicum
 - the student prepares all the formation for a team preparing for an ACTS retreat and
 - Practicum Class attendance on the first and third Thursday of the month.

Tuition and Fees -2022 Cohort:

- Total tuition and fees: *\$2750 (*Subject to change).
- Payments will be made to Oblate School of Theology. Payment plans are available to the students

Financial Assistance:

- This is a link to the Archdiocese of San Antonio's lay ministry assistance fund:
 - <https://www.archsa.org/academy/financial-assistance>.
 - Parish assistances
 - Oblate School of Theology: *ACS Program Scholarship Fund* and *OST Tuition Assistance Program*.
https://ost.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/TUITION_ASSIST_APPLICATION-ASCP.pdf

Registration information: <https://ost.edu/acts/>

Reading List:

- All needed for opening retreat. All are available on through online booksellers such as Half Price Books, Amazon, Google Books, Barnes and Nobles...etc.:
 - Way of Discernment, Spiritual Practices for Decision Making, Elizabeth Liebert
 - The Human Condition: Contemplation and Transformation, Thomas Keating
 - Holy Longing: The Search for Christian Spirituality, Ronald Rolheiser

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Application Deadline: July 15, 2022** (ALL documents must be submitted for application completion)
Until further notices CLASSES offered ONLINE ONLY.
- **Required opening retreat (ONLINE): August 18-21, 2022 (NOTE DATE CHANGE.)**
- **Day Retreat: January 28, 2023**
- **Required closing retreat: April 27-30, 2023**

Please contact me with questions or concerns.

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