

Application Form

Internship in Spiritual Direction in the Ignatian Tradition

Bellarmino Jesuit Retreat House | Barrington, IL

Please send your completed application and \$50 deposit by October 1, 2021 to Lynn Sprehe, c/o Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House, 420 W. County Line Rd., Barrington, IL 60010. If you send your application form by email, please send it to **info@jesuitretreat.org**.

Once your written application and your \$50 deposit are received, an interview will be scheduled. For applicants who are accepted, the deposit will be deducted from the \$1000 fee for Semester 1.

Your Name	
Email Address	Home Phone
Cell Phone	Office Phone
Mailing Address	
Age (<i>applicants must be at least age 30</i>)	Gender
Religious Denomination	Occupation

On separate pages, please respond to the following questions.

Ministry Experience

1. What has been your ministerial experience of service? Where? When? Under whom? What ministry have you been engaged in which requires listening?

Spiritual Direction

2. Have you been receiving spiritual direction? For how long? With whom?
3. What are your experiences of good spiritual direction, of poor spiritual direction? What have you learned from these experiences about being a spiritual director?
4. If you have not been receiving spiritual direction, are you willing to begin meeting with a spiritual director now?
5. Have you been giving spiritual direction? For how long? To whom?
6. Describe a time when you listened well to someone.
7. What are your listening strengths and limitations?
8. What draws you to participate in a spiritual direction internship at this time?
9. What do you hope to gain through the internship in spiritual direction? How do you intend to make use of the training?

Describe Your Spiritual Journey

10. How did you pray as a child?
11. How do you pray now? How would you describe your relationship with God? With Jesus Christ? What devotional practices are helpful to you?
12. Describe in detail a moment when you felt closest to God. Also describe a moment when God seemed absent.
13. What do you want from God now, at this time in your life?

14. Have you made an individually directed retreat of 5-8 days, in which you met daily with a spiritual director? When did you make the retreat? Where did you make it? Looking back, what would you say was the grace of that retreat for you?
15. Have you made the full retreat of the Spiritual Exercises in either its 30-day format or as an “Annotation 19” retreat over the course of a year? What motivated you to want to do so? Where did you make this retreat? Who was your spiritual director? How would you describe the grace of that experience?
16. If you have never made an individually directed retreat, are you willing to do so before the completion of the internship?
17. Please list any other retreat experiences you have had – e.g. weekend retreats, spiritual workshops. Please describe who sponsored these events, where they were held, and a brief description of what you gained from them.

The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola

18. What is your familiarity with the text of the *Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius?
19. Have you given the Spiritual Exercises? If so, describe your experience. Who was your mentor for this, if you had one?

Internship Requirements

20. As part of the internship, are you willing to meet as an intern spiritual companion with two or three spiritual journeyers in an on-going basis in your current ministry?
21. Once you have begun offering spiritual direction to others, are you willing to meet for one-on-one supervision twice during each semester regarding how you are doing as a spiritual companion to others?
22. As part of the internship, are you willing to write a verbatim of a session with a spiritual directee, and present it in the seminar for peer supervision?
23. Do you commit to meet in our seminar at Bellarmine Retreat House on the following Monday afternoons from 4:00pm to 7:00pm: Jan 10, 24; Feb 7, 21; Mar 7, 21; Apr 4, 18; May 2, 16?

Personal Interview for your Application

An in-person interview is part of the application process. We will contact you soon after the written application is received to set a time and date for an interview at Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House.

Please Note 2 Requirements for Applicants After Acceptance into the Internship

Once accepted into the internship, each intern will start offering spiritual direction to individuals at some point during our program. For that reason, two requirements are necessary.

1. **Child Sexual Abuse Awareness Training:** Each intern who will be giving spiritual direction at Bellarmine, or at any location in the Archdiocese of Chicago must go through the VIRTUS program of the Archdiocese of Chicago, which will certify your awareness of the sexual misconduct policy of the Archdiocese, and that you have received training regarding prevention of child sex abuse. This is required for all employees and volunteers associated with Catholic institutions in the Archdiocese. We can assist you with signing up for a VIRTUS workshop. If you are resident in another diocese and will be offering spiritual direction there, you must comply with the requirements of your diocese.
2. **Background Check:** Each intern must agree to a criminal background check. The process for this is very simple. We will submit the necessary information for you, and we will cover the modest fee.