



MARRIAGE EDUCATION FACILITATOR APPLICATION FORM 2023

ACCORD SPECIAL PURPOSE AWARD IN MARRIAGE EDUCATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode/Eircode _____ Mobile number: _____

Email: _____ (**Please note:** all correspondence will be sent via email)

Occupation: _____ Accord Centre: _____

MISSION STATEMENT

Empowering people
Fostering Relationships
Caring for Couples facing
the Challenges of Christian Marriage.

This Document is PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL TO ACCORD CLG

Education Details:

Briefly outline relevant studies and qualifications obtained:

1. Have you previously applied for training with ACCORD? YES ☐ NO ☐
(Please tick the appropriate box)

2. If yes, what year? _____ What service? Counselling ☐ Education ☐

3. What was the outcome ? Selected ☐ Not Selected ☐

4. Are you currently involved in any community or voluntary work? YES ☐ NO ☐
(If so, please specify)

5. Do you have PowerPoint Skills? YES ☐ NO ☐

6. Do you have basic computer skills? YES ☐ NO ☐

7. Have you used zoom video conferencing ? YES ☐ NO ☐

8. Do you have presentation/facilitation skills? YES ☐ NO ☐

9. Have you experience of managing group activities and discussions (please outline)

Suitability to become a Facilitator with ACCORD CLG:

Have the ability to convey a positive attitude to Catholic Marriage.

Have an openness and commitment to working as a volunteer within a Catholic organisation.

Relate easily to people and are able to be part of a team.

Are sensitive, warm, caring and accepting.

- ◆ Currently Sacramentally married and living together with your spouse YES ☐ NO ☐
- ◆ A Single individual, unmarried lay person who understands and accepts the teaching of the Catholic Church on sacramental marriage - YES ☐ NO ☐
- ◆ A priest and/or a permanent deacon who is in good standing with his diocese; YES ☐ NO ☐
- ◆ A member of a religious congregation who is in good standing with his/her religious congregation; YES ☐ NO ☐
- ◆ A widow/widower who was sacramentally married YES ☐ NO ☐
- ◆ A person granted an annulment without a prohibition - a vetitum*- to marry in the Catholic Church YES ☐ NO ☐

*Re-marriage prohibited under the canon law of the Catholic Church, a vetitum

In applying to become a Marriage Education facilitator with ACCORD, a person has to be able and willing to take on the following commitments.:

1. Attend a **Selection Conference**
2. Following selection, successful applicants are invited to undertake training as Marriage Education Facilitators:
 - A) Attend seven workshops on the ACCORD CLG Marriage Education Training Programme
 - B) Gain practical experience by working with an experience facilitator team on a number of Marriage Preparation programmes during the training year
 - C) Compile a Learning Journal for submission at the end of the training programme
 - D) Become a member of a designated local ACCORD Centre and take part in three programmes as part of a team, following successful completion of the training programme and prior to graduation.
3. **Graduation** September 2025

Please note: All correspondence will be via email.

it is necessary to have PowerPoint and basic computer skills.

Trainees will be evaluated by continuous assessment throughout the training programme

MEMBERSHIP OF ACCORD CLG

Membership of ACCORD CLG (following Graduation) involves the following commitments:

- A) Have the clear aspiration of achieving a specified agreed number of Marriage Preparation Programmes in a calendar year as agreed by the Centre Committee - ACCORD Policy—ME/03/2013 (6.2)
- B) Following Graduation a commitment of three years to your Centre is a requirement.
- C) Full participation in the monthly meeting of the local Accord Centre
- D) Supervision in accordance with ACCORD Policy SV/09/2013
- E) CPD annually in accordance with ACCORD Policy—GEN/CPD/Oct 2013

Attendance:

It is essential that trainees attend **ALL** elements of the training programme

In the event of a trainee missing any aspects of the training, it will be decided in conjunction with the trainers, if the trainee will progress with the training process. Trainees will be on probation until graduation.

The local Centre through which each applicant applies will be responsible for the costs relating to Selection Conference and Training of each applicant. Travel expenses will not be paid during training.

Please note: A commitment of three years is requested following Training and Graduation

Please state briefly your reasons for applying to become a member of ACCORD as a facilitator:

Please state your understanding of the benefits of attending a Marriage Preparation Programme in preparation for Sacramental Marriage in the Catholic Church.

ACCORD Catholic Marriage Care Service is an agency of the Catholic Church providing a nationwide service to couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. ACCORD is committed to providing a quality service. Personnel are professionally trained to facilitate Marriage Preparation programmes on behalf of Accord. ACCORD serves the pastoral needs of couples at different stages in their relationship.

- * **Preparation for Marriage** in a Christian context focuses on the essential components which foster a good couple and family relationship:

ACCORD recognises that the couples who attend Marriage Preparation are on a shared journey which has supported the growth of their couple relationship to the point where they now feel ready to present themselves for the Sacrament of Marriage, and to begin life as a married couple within the setting of their Parish Community.

The Marriage Preparation Programme provides a valuable opportunity for couples to focus on the current strength of their relationship, and to identify the key elements they are handling well, and the areas that will benefit from further development.

The programme design centres on regular time allocations for personal noting, followed by couple time when ideas and opinions are shared and discussed in confidence.

Accord Marriage and Relationship Counselling Service:

ACCORD CLG also offers a professional counselling service which facilitates couples and individuals to explore, reflect upon and endeavour to resolve difficulties in their marriage and relationships in a confidential, sensitive, respectful and non judgemental setting.

ACCORD Catholic Marriage Care Service conforms with the Criteria for Programmes of Preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage Approved by the Irish Episcopal Conference (June 2010)

ACCORD Catholic Marriage Care Service wishes that all prospective candidates are familiar with the Mission Statement of Accord, which is on the cover page of this application form, so that they are fully aware of the ethos out of which the Accord Organisation works.

Please give the name & contact information for **two** people (not related to you) who ACCORD CLG may contact for references on your behalf:

Name: _____

Position: _____

Address: _____

Postcode/Eircode: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Name: _____

Position: _____

Address: _____

Postcode/Eircode: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I declare that all the above statements and information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any misstatement or omission of facts constitute grounds for non-selection or release. I hereby give permission for contact to be made with all relevant persons.

Candidate's signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Please complete this form and return it to: adignam@accord.ie

Or by post:
ACCORD Catholic Marriage Care Service, Columba Centre,
Maynooth, Co. Kildare



ACCORD—Registered Charity Number 20167288