



## Pricing Policy, 2024-2026

It is our desire to train as many people as are called and ready to do the work of spiritual direction. Our tuition is tied directly to an operating budget for this program, which will allow us to cover our basic expenses. We are a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of St Francis of Philadelphia (SoSF). That relationship provides us access to a deep well of Franciscan practice and wise teachers who have held the Franciscan charism for decades while practicing spiritual direction. The SoSF relationship does not, though, provide us with an endowment or sufficient subsidy to cover the cost of this program. It also is our desire to pay a fair wage to the faculty, teachers, mentors, and spiritual direction supervisors who play a critical role in the program.

This training program historically has attracted a diverse group of participants. The online format increases that diversity. Students are formed in their faith in different geographic places, cultures, nations, and faith traditions. This makes for a richer program for all students. And it is intentional. Becoming a spiritual director requires the learned capacity to sit with another who is different from you. We learn to hear them, encourage them, and celebrate how God meets them in their lives. Having a diverse student body can be both a challenge and a gift. We will embrace both the challenge and the gift because it is instrumental in learning how the Divine relates and presents in ways that are likely different from our own.

A tiered pricing approach is our attempt to hold all these things:

- We wish to honor the reality that those who are called and ready to commit to this program will differ in financial resources.
- We wish to promote equity.
- We wish to honor the time of our teachers, mentors, and supervisors. They are not simply subject matter experts but (by design and faithfulness) they offer the component of human transmission of this wisdom practice.
- We wish to honor and support the continuity of ministry of the Franciscan sisters. It is our legacy and our offering.