

SECRETARIAT FOR EVANGELIZATION & DISCIPLESHIP

SUGGESTED TRANSITION TIMELINE FOR CONFIRMATION

APRIL 23, 2024

Parishes in the Archdiocese of Boston have until May 1, 2027, to complete their transition from the normal age of receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at ages 15-16 (grades 10-11) to around the age of 13-14 (grade 8). Pastors of parishes may exercise their discretion in how they manage the transition period between 2024 and May 2027.

- Some parishes have indicated that they will not be making any changes within the next year in order to prepare and plan for implementing this change.
- Some parishes have begun designing and implementing a period of transition to the new normative age to implement over time.
- Some parishes have chosen to offer Confirmation to more young people starting in the spring of 2024 with the intention of adjusting to the new normative age sooner rather than later.

Parish leaders have requested some suggested models or timelines for implementing this transition. Here are three possible for consideration, roughly following the transition plans mentioned above:

3-Year Confirmation Transition Process

Overview: 1 confirmation date in 2025, up to 2 in 2026, and up to 2 in 2027

2025

- Confirmation of 10th graders (who are in 9th grade in 2024) in spring or fall 2025 as usual

2026

- Confirmation of 10th graders (who are in 8th grade in 2024) in spring or fall 2026 as usual
- Confirmation of 9th graders (who are in 7th grade in 2024) in spring or fall 2026
- May require requesting 1 additional confirmation date in spring or fall 2026 depending upon the number of candidates

2027

- Confirmation of 9th graders (who are in 6th grade in 2024) in spring or fall 2027
- Confirmation of 8th graders (who are in 5th grade in 2024) in 2027
- May require requesting 1 additional confirmation date in 2027 depending on the number of candidates

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2-Year Confirmation Transition Process

Overview: 1 confirmation date in 2025, up to 2 in 2026, 1 in 2027 and after

2025

- Confirmation of 10th graders (who are in 9th grade in 2024) in spring or fall 2025 as usual
- Confirmation of 9th graders (who are in 8th grade in 2024) in spring or fall 2025
- May require requesting 1 additional confirmation date in spring or fall 2025 depending upon the number of candidates

2026

- Confirmation of 8th graders (who are in 6th grade in 2024) and 9th graders (who are in 7th grade in 2024) in spring or fall 2026
- May require requesting 1 additional confirmation date in spring or fall 2025 depending upon the number of candidates

2027

- Confirmation of 8th graders (who are in 5th grade in 2024) in 2027

1-Year Confirmation Transition Process

Overview: Up to 3 confirmation dates in 2025, 1 in 2026 and after

2025

- Confirmation of 8th graders (who are in 7th grade in 2024), 9th graders (who are in 8th grade in 2024), and 10th graders (who are in 9th grade in 2024) in spring or fall 2025
- After a period of preparation in 2024-2025
- May require requesting 2 additional confirmation dates in spring or fall 2025 depending upon the number of candidates in each grade

2026

- Confirmation of 8th graders (who are in 6th grade in 2024) in spring or fall 2026
- The transition has been completed in 2 years

2027

- Confirmation of 8th graders (who are in 5th grade in 2024) in 2027