

## Catholic College & University Statement of Fidelity

The *National Catholic Register* requires all Catholic colleges and universities to affirm the following statements as a requirement for inclusion in the *Register's* annual College Guide and for advertising in the *Register*.

School Name: _____	Contact: _____
Address: _____	Title: _____
City/State/Zip: _____	Email: _____
Web site: _____	Phone: _____
Enrollment: _____	

**The Institution:** I affirm that:

- The president has made a public profession of faith and has taken an "Oath of Fidelity."
- The majority of the board of trustees is Catholic.
- The majority of the faculty is Catholic.
- All Catholic theology professors have a *mandatum*.
- All Catholic theology professors have taken the "Oath of Fidelity."

**Campus Culture:** I affirm that:

- Daily Mass is provided and times are posted (at least weekly) for individual confession.
- Advocates of abortion, euthanasia, cloning, same-sex "marriage," human embryonic stem-cell research, gender "fluidity," or other views that are counter to defined Catholic teaching, or those who are under investigation, disciplinary action or suppression imposed by the Church, are excluded as commencement speakers and/or recipients of honorary degrees.
- Pro-abortion campus groups, or groups promoting views that are counter to defined Catholic teaching, are excluded from sponsorship.
- Coed dorms are prohibited.
- Student health services are prohibited from promoting artificial birth control or making referrals to abortion clinics.

**Additional Comments:**

I certify that I am authorized to issue these affirmations on behalf of my institution.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Printed Name & Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

**Please return to [editor@ewtn.com](mailto:editor@ewtn.com), or fax to 888-838-9737**

# Questionnaire Sources

Your affirmation reflects essential elements of the renewal of Catholic identity called for by Pope John Paul II's 1990 apostolic constitution on higher education, *Ex Corde Ecclesiae* (From the Heart of the Church), its 2000 "Application to the United States," canon law and other Church documents.

## President's Oath

*Canon 833*

The president of a Catholic university is personally bound to make a profession of faith, according to the formula approved by the Apostolic See, in the presence of the chancellor or diocesan bishop or a delegate at the beginning of the term of office.

*The "Profession of Faith" and the "Oath of Fidelity," Acta Apostolicae Sedis 1989*

The obligation of a special oath of fidelity has been extended to presidents of Catholic universities.

## Catholic Board

*U.S. Application*

To the extent possible, the majority of the board of trustees should be Catholics committed to the Church.

## Catholic Faculty

*U.S. Application*

The university should strive to recruit and appoint Catholics as professors so that, to the extent possible, those committed to the witness of the faith will constitute a majority of the faculty.

## Mandatum Required

*Canon 812*

It is necessary that Catholic theologians have a *mandatum* from the diocesan bishop.

*Pope John Paul II (to American bishops, 2004)*

By their very nature, Catholic colleges and universities are called to offer an institutional witness of fidelity to Christ and to his word as it comes to us from the Church, a public witness expressed in the canonical requirement of the *mandatum*.

*U.S. Application*

Catholic students have a right to receive from a university instruction in authentic Catholic doctrine and practice, especially from theologians.

*Mandatum text*

I hereby declare my role and responsibility as a teacher of a theological discipline within the full communion of the Church. As a teacher of a theological discipline, therefore, I am committed to teach authentic Catholic doctrine and to refrain from putting forth as Catholic teaching anything contrary to the Church's magisterium.

*U.S. Application*

If a particular professor lacks a *mandatum* and continues to teach a theological discipline, the university must determine what further action may be taken in accordance with its own mission and statutes.

## **Theologian's Oath**

*Canon 833*

Catholic theologians are personally bound to make a profession of faith, according to the formula approved by the Apostolic See, in the presence of the university president if he is a priest, or the diocesan bishop or a delegate, at the beginning of their term of office.

*The "Profession of Faith" and the "Oath of Fidelity," Acta Apostolicae Sedis 1989*

The obligation of a special oath of fidelity has been extended to Catholic theology professors.

## **Mass and Confession**

*U.S. Application*

Catholic students have a right to be provided with opportunities to practice the faith through participation in Mass, the sacraments, religious devotions, and other authentic forms of Catholic spirituality.

The university shall make provision for effective campus ministry programs, including the celebration of the sacraments, especially the Eucharist and penance, other liturgical celebrations, and opportunities for prayer and spiritual reflection.

## **Speakers Vetted**

*The U.S. Bishops' 2004 Catholics in Political Life*

Catholic institutions should not honor those who act in defiance of our fundamental moral principles. They should not be given awards, honors, or platforms that would suggest support for their actions.

## **Unobjectionable Clubs**

*U.S. Application*

It is important for Catholic universities to implement in practical terms their commitment to the essential elements of Catholic identity, including activities of officially recognized student and faculty organizations and associations.

## **No Coed Dorms**

*U.S. Application*

It is important for Catholic universities to implement in practical terms their commitment to the essential elements of Catholic identity, including the commitment to create a campus culture and environment that is expressive and supportive of a Catholic way of life.

## **Health Services Okay**

*U.S. Application*

It is important for Catholic universities to implement in practical terms their commitment to the essential elements of Catholic identity, including the commitment to provide health care in conformity with the Church's ethical and religious teaching and directives.