

Unity SpiritGroups FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions - Unity SpiritGroups

What is the purpose of the Unity SpiritGroups Leader Certification Program?

The Unity SpiritGroups Leader Certification Program is designed to facilitate the expansion of the concept of small group ministry and provide ministries, Unity and non-Unity alike, with the information, documents, training, support, advice, and planning to lead and launch their own groups.

Who can enroll in the program?

Anyone who is interested in creating safe spaces that foster spiritual growth for individuals, while naturally growing their ministries, small groups, and organizations. You don't need to be associated with a ministry; you only need the desire to learn how to lead and allow the Spirit of God to show you where to be of service. The program has no credentialing status in Unity churches or Unity Worldwide Ministries.

What is the tuition?

\$750.00

What do I receive for the tuition and fees of \$750.00?

You will receive training and education that will equip you to lead Unity SpiritGroups, train, mentor, and coach hosts and group leaders for ministries, and plan, organize and execute launches for Unity SpiritGroups within ministries. You will receive training materials and manuals for you and for those you will train, as well as instruction and coaching as you plan an entire program. Once you have successfully completed the program, you will still have access to all training materials, and will gain access to the curriculum used for study groups.

Unity SpiritGroups can be taught and offered to anyone, since it is spiritually oriented and not denominationally oriented. The training program is meant to be available to anyone, within Unity or otherwise.

In the program, you will: 1. Identify, reflect upon, and explain the reasons a Unity SpiritGroups is key to the growth and sustainability of a Unity ministry. 2. Understand your role as Unity

SpiritGroups Certified Program Leader, the role of a new host, the role of each member of a Unity SpiritGroup, and the role of the board and minister or leader who supports Unity SpiritGroups within their ministry or organization. 3. Discern the best way to recruit, vet, interview, train, and support new hosts. 4. Articulate the importance of the 5 C's in the health, growth, maintenance, and power of a Unity SpiritGroup. 5. Apply what you have learned to a private SpiritGroup prior to their first launch, that could include, but is not limited to, your board and minister. 6. Create an action plan for your first launch and a calendar year of events.

What curriculum is being used for each of the scheduled sessions? May I see a syllabus before applying?

The curriculum designed for this program was created by Mindy Audlin. In February 2022, Mindy sold her program to Unity Worldwide Ministries. You may request to see a syllabus before applying.

Does the tuition and fees include manuals, workbooks and/or texts?

At this time, there are no training manuals, workbooks, or texts required. However, should we require them later, the student will be responsible for purchasing them. There are, however, Facilitator and Participant Manuals for the New Host Orientation. An electronic copy of both will be available for Program Leaders to print as needed.

Are there Unity education prerequisites for a certified Spiritual Director?

No Unity education prerequisites are required.

Will the entire program be conducted virtually?

Except for an optional Annual Leadership Conference held near Unity Convention, yes.

Are the training sessions pre-recorded or live?

The courses are taught live, while the material is on Canvas, our Learning Management System. The cohort will meet every week for 3 weeks a month, for 4 months in a live session for instruction, connection, and planning. Each member of the cohort will meet on the 4th week of the month with their smaller group for support and connection.

How often do the training sessions take place? Twice weekly, weekly, bi-weekly, Monthly?

Videos are released weekly. Cohorts meet bi-weekly.

If a student is unable to attend one of the sessions, is it possible to make it up at a later date?

The Unity SpiritGroup Certified Program Leader training is a cohort-based learning community. Each class will build upon the previous one experientially. Classes for Unity SpiritGroups are not available individually; however, they will be recorded, and weekly classwork is required.

Will students be required to partner with other classmates outside of the classroom experience in addition to the cohort meeting times?

Yes. Each student will have a smaller cohort that will become their lifelong support group. These groups are called Moai's, after the Japanese groups that children are assigned to for life.

At the completion of the program will a Unity SpiritGroups Certified Program Leader be required to take annual Continuing Education Units?

Not at this time, but it is strongly recommended that all who successfully complete the program attend Weekly Huddles, Advanced Leadership Trainings, and the Annual Leadership Summit.

Are Unity SpiritGroups Certified Program Leaders considered to have a role in the leadership team in Unity churches and centers as are Ministers, Spiritual Leaders and Licensed Unity Teachers?

Yes. Essentially, a Unity SpiritGroups Certified Program Leader is a trained membership director, who has the training, resources, and abilities to foster a stronger membership within current members and grow membership with the use of small group ministry.

Is it possible for someone with a full-time working schedule to be fully engaged in this program?

Absolutely! UWSI offers classes both in the evenings and during the day for convenience. We meet for an hour and 45 minutes a week for 3 weeks, and your Moai meets for 90 minutes once a month. A helpful, but generous, estimate for time outside of class is no more than three hours weekly.