

INSTRUCTOR STANDARDS

Instructors are to use or philosophically accept—according to their state of life—the Boston Cross Check Method as developed.

Instructors are to provide: accurate instruction about fertility awareness and the Boston Cross Check Method; Catholic Church teaching relevant to the topic where appropriate*; and couple/client follow-up.

Instructors are to respect the autonomy of couples to determine the size of their own families based on their physical, economic, psychological, and social conditions. If couples express a wish for discernment assistance, an instructor may suggest resources, e.g., tools in the teacher training materials, counseling, or discussion with a spiritual advisor.

Instructors are to refer clients to another BCC instructor if they think they cannot adequately meet their needs or if it would be a poor “instructional fit.” Instructors are to be courteous and discreet in this regard.

Instructors are to suggest other methods of NFP for client investigation if the instructor or client believes BCC may not be the “best fit”.

Instructors certified in another method or methods of fertility charting are to be clear as to which method is being provided to any client, and are not to combine methods.

Instructors are to obtain written and verifiable parental consent before teaching minors.

Instructors, including those who do not hold the Catholic faith, are not to recommend or refer for contraception, sterilization, abortion or artificial reproductive technologies as a means for avoiding or achieving pregnancy.

Instructors are not to provide pregnancy and childbirth advice. Instructors can provide chart reviews and pregnancy evaluations to assist with ascertaining the most likely window of conception, which may help with pregnancy dating.

Instructors are not to discuss client charts or circumstances in any groups or with another person without client’s consent. If consent is granted, the client should not be identified or described in a way that they are easily identified without further consent. If consultation with a colleague or supervisor is warranted, instructors are to inform the client and get proper consents.

**Catholic teaching is included in instructor training and client materials. Instructors are to convey this material when teaching as a diocesan NFP instructor; teaching in a Catholic environment, e.g., Catholic hospital or parish; or providing NFP instruction as part of Catholic marriage preparation or marriage preparation requirement. The material on Catholic teaching may be omitted in certain situations, e.g., instructing non-Catholic clients or clients who request the omission of the material. Regardless, the values inherent in NFP, such as respect for the spousal relationship and the creative nature of sexual intercourse, are still conveyed in the client materials.*