

**LET US SERVE LIKE JESUS - LET US JOURNEY TOGETHER**

**FRANCISCAN YOUTH**

**OFS Gen. Constitutions:**

**Article 96**

1. The OFS, by virtue of its very vocation, ought to be ready to share its experience of gospel life with youth who feel attracted to Saint Francis of Assisi and to seek the means of adequately presenting it to them.
2. Franciscan Youth (YouFra), as understood by these Constitutions and in so far as the OFS considers itself to be particularly responsible for it, is formed by those young people who feel called by the Holy Spirit to share the experience of the Christian life in fraternity, in the light of the message of Saint Francis of Assisi, deepening their own vocation within the context of the Secular Franciscan Order.
3. The members of Franciscan Youth consider the Rule of the OFS as an inspirational document for the growth of their own Christian and Franciscan vocation either individually or in a group. After a suitable period of formation, of at least one year, they confirm this option with a personal pledge before God and in the presence of the brothers and sisters.
4. Members of Franciscan Youth who wish to belong to the OFS should satisfy the requirements of the Rule, the Constitutions, and the Ritual of the OFS.
5. Franciscan Youth has its own distinct organization, methods of formation, and methods of instruction adequate for the needs of the world of youth, according to the existing realities in the various countries. The National Statutes of Franciscan Youth should be approved by the respective National Council of the OFS, or in its absence, by the Presidency of CIOFS.
6. Franciscan Youth, as a component of the Franciscan family, requests from the competent secular leaders and religious superiors, respectively, fraternal animation and spiritual assistance.

**Article 97**

1. The OFS fraternities will promote vocation to Franciscan Youth by means of appropriate and dynamic initiatives. They should ensure the vitality and the expansion of Franciscan Youth fraternities and accompany the youth on their journey of human and spiritual growth with proposals for relevant activities and contents.

2. OFS Fraternities should commit themselves to giving Franciscan Youth fraternities a fraternal animator, who together with the Spiritual Assistant and the Council of the Franciscan Youth guarantee an adequate Secular Franciscan formation.
3. To promote a close communion with the OFS, all leaders of Franciscan Youth at the international level and at least two members of the National Council of Franciscan Youth should be professed Secular Franciscans youth.
4. A representative of Franciscan Youth is to be designated by his or her council to form part of the OFS Council of the corresponding level; a representative of the OFS, designated by his or her own Council, forms part of the Council of the Franciscan Youth of the same level. The representative of Franciscan Youth has a vote in the OFS Council only if he or she is a professed Secular Franciscan.
5. Representatives of Franciscan Youth on CIOFS are elected according to the International Statutes, which also determine how many there are, what Fraternities they represent, and what their responsibilities are supposed to be.

**OFS-USA Statutes: Article 27.** Franciscan Youth and Young Adults

The provisions of articles #96 and #97 of the General Constitutions concerning Franciscan Youth and Young Adults apply.