



Smolensk Theological School is the first secondary religious education institution to obtain official accreditation

The inter-diocesan theological school in the diocese of Smolensk was granted official accreditation on June 30, 2010. Now its graduates will receive a church certificate and a state-recognized certificate as specialists in Choir Conducting and Painting.

Based on the national curriculum for the professions of Choir Conductor and Icon-painter, the School's course includes such component of theological education as choir conducting, church choir tradition, liturgics, icon-painting, iconography, history of church music and history of icon-painting.

The Smolensk diocese has always sought to achieve high standards in theological education. The Orthodox Seminary in Smolensk was one of the first to resume its work in the Smolensk region. The first Orthodox grammar school was opened in one of its regional centers, and the first Orthodox kindergarten was opened in Smolensk. The credit of all these initiatives for the revival of religious life in the Smolensk region belongs to His Holiness Patriarch Kirill, who served at that time on the chair of Smolensk.

The today's history of the Smolensk theological schools is developing through the active efforts of the ruling bishop of the diocese, Bishop Feofilakt of Smolensk and Vyazma.

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