

Church Vocations Initiative of Grace Lutheran Church Scholarship Program

Guidelines for Applicants

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)

Purpose

Recognizing the blessings of strong leadership, Grace Lutheran Church is committed to an intentional focus of raising up a new generation of leaders for the mission and ministry of the church. Through the Church Vocations Initiative, Grace will provide support, encouragement, and financial assistance to members who wish to pursue a vocational ministry, either within the church or in the secular world.

Eligibility

An applicant for scholarship assistance must:

- be an active member (not staff) of Grace Lutheran Church for at least 1 year;
- have expressed plans to prepare for ordained, rostered lay, teaching, youth ministry, music ministry, or for practicing Christian vocation in the secular world;
- be admitted, either as a graduate or undergraduate full-time student, in an accredited college, university or seminary (if pursuing a vocation in the secular world, preference will be given to a Lutheran college or university);
- be pursuing a degree program in areas that are preparatory for Christian vocation within the church or in the secular world;
- if an undergraduate, be either a junior or senior with a GPA of 3.0 or better.

Administrative Guidelines

- The maximum amount to be awarded for graduate students is \$4,000 per year for up to three years; the maximum amount for undergraduates is \$1,000 per year for up to two years. The committee has the discretion to consider applications for supporting students during additional years.
- The actual amounts of the scholarship awards will be determined by the number of applicants and the funds available.
- Scholarships are for a one-year term; recipients may reapply for additional years.
- Recipients will receive their award in two equal payments, one each semester payable to their educational institution for application to the student's tuition and course-related expenses. The second payment will not be made if the recipient does not take classes the second semester.

Recipient commitments

Scholarship recipients are asked to:

- Notify the Church Vocations Committee if the recipient's institution operates on a quarterly system;
- inform the Church Vocations Committee of any change in educational plans;
- notify the Church Vocations Committee that coursework has been completed prior to receipt of second semester funding;
- submit a grade transcript to the Church Vocations Committee when applying for second or third year funding;
- provide written reports to the Church Vocations Committee once per semester sharing the steps you are taking on your faith journey and how your educational experience is enhancing your journey;
- be willing, if asked and if geographically feasible, to share experiences and insights within the Grace community.
- Provide the name and address at the educational institution where the funds should be sent.

Timeline

<i>July 15</i>	Application deadline
<i>August 15</i>	Notification of scholarship decisions
<i>September 15</i>	First semester scholarship payment sent to recipients, payable to each recipient's institution toward recipient's tuition and course-related expenses
<i>January 15</i>	Fall semester report due
<i>January 15</i>	Second semester scholarship payment sent to recipients, payable to each recipient's institution toward recipient's tuition and course-related expenses
<i>June 15</i>	Spring semester report due

Please e-mail any questions and completed applications to:

diane_carioscio@comcast.net

CHURCH VOCATIONS INITIATIVE OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Scholarship Program

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Academic year 2018 – 2019

GENERAL INFORMATION

Student name _____ Age _____

Current address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

College, university, or seminary currently attending or planning to attend:

PROVIDE CONTACT NAME AND ADDRESS (WHERE FUNDS SHOULD BE SENT)

Institution address _____

Contact Name & Phone _____ Email _____

____ Undergraduate program (GPA is _____)	____ Graduate program
____ Entering junior year	____ Year one
____ Entering senior year	____ Year two
____ Year three	

VOCATIONAL FIELD BEING PURSUED (Please check):

____ ordained clergy; ____ deaconess; ____ youth leadership; ____ teaching in Christian school;

____ church music; ____ other church vocational field; ____ pursuing a Christian vocation in the
secular world (preference given to Lutheran colleges)

Major (if undergraduate) _____

Please attach a brief personal essay in which you include:

- **your school/campus, church, and community leadership activities;**
- **your financial needs;**
- **your gifts for ministry and how your faith journey has helped you discern your gifts;**
- **how you propose using your gifts in service through the church and in the world; and**
- **how your educational program is helping you prepare for church ministry.**

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