



Seminarian Fund Application

Rivers & Lakes Presbytery (EPC)

Name: _____

Ordination Process

Name of RLP Church where you are a member: _____

Date of coming under care of the Presbytery: _____

Seminary Education

Name of school where you are enrolled: _____

Residential status (e.g., on campus, online, etc.): _____

Degree program: _____

Anticipated graduation date: _____

Briefly describe your situation and future plans as well as any factors that you feel the Ministerial Committee should be aware of.

Seminarian Fund Distribution Policy | Rivers & Lakes Presbytery (EPC)

Purpose

The Presbytery of Rivers & Lakes establishes this policy to provide clarity and fairness in the distribution of funds designated for the support of seminarians under care. The purpose of the Seminarian Fund is to encourage and support candidates preparing for the gospel ministry. The Ministerial Committee will be responsible for reviewing applications and recommending the distribution of funds to Presbytery.

Eligibility

- Candidate under care of Rivers & Lakes Presbytery.
- Enrollment in an accredited program pursuing a degree that leads to ordination.

Prioritization of Circumstance

In keeping with the Presbytery's desire to encourage rigorous preparation for ministry, funds shall be distributed according to the following tiers of priority:

1. Residential students enrolled full-time in a Master of Divinity (or equivalent) program at an institution approved by the Presbytery.
2. Students in hybrid or mixed-mode programs that combine significant residential coursework with online learning.
3. Students in online-only programs or other non-residential formats.

Distribution Guidelines

- Applications to the seminarian fund should be submitted to the Ministerial Committee *no later than* six weeks prior to the annual meeting of the Presbytery (ordinarily the last weekend of September). The Ministerial Committee will make recommendation(s) for distributions of funds at the annual meeting of the Presbytery.
- Available funds will be allocated according to need, number of applicants, and available resources. Funds must be used for: tuition costs not otherwise paid by scholarships or personal funding, housing expenses, or instructional materials.
- The Ministerial Committee has discretion to determine the amounts within each tier, ensuring that full-time residential applicants are considered first, followed by other circumstances. The Committee may also consider other factors, such as demonstrated financial need, progress in studies, and active participation in the presbytery.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years by the Ministerial Committee and Presbytery to ensure it continues to serve the best interests of seminarians and the church.

By signing below, I agree to the Seminarian Fund policies and request consideration for assistance.

(applicant's name)

(date)



For Ministerial Committee Use:

- Seminary approval (tier)
- Program approval
- Advisor approval
- Good standing with Session
- Practical experience progress