

Background – The Grant and Scholarship Team of First Presbyterian Church

The Endowed Funds Grants and Scholarships Team (GST) of First Presbyterian Church of Houston (FPC) is responsible for the stewardship of the amounts allocated by FPC's Session for expenditure from the Church's endowed and quasi-endowed funds. The GST prayerfully makes decisions about how best to administer the gifts people have given to our church, being careful to honor any guidelines that accompany these gifts. The GST is a Ministry Team reporting to the Senior Pastor and operating pursuant to a charter established by the Session. The GST's mission is to utilize Session-allocated funds (1) to grant scholarships to undergraduate college and seminary students and (2) to grant funds to organizations engaged in Christian endeavors, particularly to organizations that meet needs of the most vulnerable in our community.

Information Regarding Seminary Scholarship Grants

To be considered for a seminary scholarship or grant, an application must be completed and received by the PFM team by one of the three submittal dates:

- June 1 for the fall school session
- November 1 for the spring school session
- April 1 for the summer school session

Scholarship grants are based on merit and need in the following monetary range:

- Seminary student scholarship grants up to \$10,000 per academic year, not to exceed \$40,000 in aggregate.

The following requirements must be met to receive a scholarship grant:

- Completed Application for Seminary Scholarship form (this form), with supporting financial documentation (Free Application for Federal Student Aid form, tax return, income/expense analysis for student). All financial information will be kept confidential.
- College transcript for first year seminary students. Seminary transcript for each succeeding semester of seminary work indicating that the applicant is in good standing at the seminary at which he or she is enrolled.
- Progress report per term where the applicant is enrolled.

Scholarship grants will be approved on an annual basis but will be funded by term or semester.

Seminary students will be notified with each disbursement that they must write a summary of their current term experience and attach a transcript of related grades before further disbursements will be made.

Scholarship award payments are made payable directly to the institution.

Name of Student Applicant _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Other Phone _____

E-mail _____

Time period covered by scholarship:

Full year, full time (2 semesters of 12+ credit hours) beginning _____

Single term beginning _____

Other (summer, online, part-time, etc.) specify/beginning _____

Seminary Name _____

Degree Plan _____

Do you plan to become a congregation pastor/preacher? Yes No

Are you under the care of FPC Houston in the Ordination process? Yes No

Why have you chosen this Seminary?

What are your plans following graduation?

Are you a member of FPC Houston? Yes No

If you are not a member, what is your affiliation with FPC Houston?

Current and past church activities:

Please provide employment history (full or part-time) or attach resume.

Student-related expenses (anticipated costs for time period covered by scholarship)

Tuition \$ _____
Fees \$ _____
Books \$ _____
Room & Board \$ _____
Transportation \$ _____
Other (please specify) \$ _____

Total \$ _____

What other scholarships, grants, or student loans have you applied for?

How much have you been promised to date? _____

Amount requested from FPC Houston \$ _____

Are there any extenuating circumstances that the GST team should be aware of in considering your application?

If the GST team has previously granted you a scholarship, please attach a copy of your transcript for the period covered by that grant.

Signature _____ Date _____

Return completed grant applications to:

By email to: evarnell@fpchouston.org
or

First Presbyterian Church of Houston
5300 Main Street
Houston, TX 77004
Attn: Erin Varnell, Executive Assistant

Increased demand for scholarship assistance requires consideration of financial need and relationship to First Presbyterian of Houston.