



Boyce W. Blackwelder Tuition Fund for Church of God Seminarians

Administration Policies/Guidelines

- I. In June 1974, the General Assembly of the Church of God (Anderson, IN), on recommendation of its Special Advisory Committee on Anderson University School of Theology, adopted a resolution directing the church's Division of World Services to annually raise funding from the church for the purpose assisting Church of God ministerial students with the cost of their graduate training at the church's seminary.

The intent of the Division of World Service and of Anderson University School of Theology is to implement this significant action of the General Assembly, thus helping to make possible quality, graduate-level training for every qualified student who has been called into the ministry of the church. The goal annually will be to generate and award the level of funding required to underwrite the tuition costs of all qualified students.

- II. It is assumed that the availability of funds is a sacrificial act on the part of the Church of God for the purpose of investing in her own future ministry. Therefore, all disbursement assumes that the student receiving funds will meet the qualifications intended by the church. Such qualifications will be tested in a formal application process. These qualifications will call for each eligible student to be:

A. A Church of God Ministerial Student

Defined as one who identifies with and is recognized by the Church of God (Anderson, IN) as one of its ministerial students. Documentation from a church official may be required.

B. Enrolled at Anderson University School of Theology

Understood to include only students regularly admitted and properly enrolled at the Church of God seminary, Anderson University School of Theology.

C. Doing Acceptable Academic Work

Normally defined as maintaining at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average, based on the seminary's 4-point scale.

D. In Preparation for Professional Ministry in the Church of God

Understood to include the roles of pastor, associate minister (Christian education, music, youth), missionary, executive of or teacher in a Church of God college, executive of a state or national agency of the Church of God, and institutional or military chaplain.

The Financial Aid and Awards Committee of Anderson University School of Theology reserves the right to make a final judgment when a question arises concerning a student's eligibility for assistance. Any student who is granted funds and later decides not to engage in professional ministry in the Church of God (as defined above) **is expected to repay** to the Blackwelder Tuition Fund the total amount of the grant(s). Arrangements for this will be handled jointly by the School of Theology's Office of Student Services and the Business Office at Anderson University.

- III. In the event that the applications for financial assistance from eligible students exceeds the level of funding available in any given year, the following student categories will define priority groupings that in part will govern the disbursement of available funds.

A. First Priority: Returning Church of God Students

Those who have completed at Anderson University School of Theology a minimum of 12 semester hours prior to the year in question and who are pre-registered for a minimum of nine semester hours at the School of Theology.

B. Second Priority: New Church of God Students

Those who have completed at Anderson University School of Theology less than 12 semester hours prior to the year in question and who are registering for a minimum of nine semester hours at the School of Theology. Graduate students who have begun their graduate theological training in other accredited seminaries and transfer to Anderson University School of Theology will be considered new students.

C. Third Priority: Part-time Church of God Students

Those who are registered for less than nine semester hours at the School of Theology.

D. Fourth Priority: Special Church of God Students

Those who are not regular degree candidates.

All students are expected to seek outside sources of support and to contribute summer savings and part-time earnings to payment of their costs while in seminary. However, an effort will be made to extend to a limited number of eligible students additional tuition assistance beyond the basic grant on the basis of NEED. Priority will be given to married students with families and to others where the need is most urgent and only as funds are available. This is why we utilize the financial aid request form, so that special needs can be indicated each year and needs can be assessed.

- IV.** The intent of the Financial Aid Awards Committee is to act annually in underwriting tuition costs for qualified students who are properly enrolled at Anderson University School of Theology and who have applied for such scholarship aid prior to the deadlines stated below. If in a given year adequate funds should not be available to meet the tuition needs of all qualified students in all categories, the committee will employ the student-category priority system defined above.

The Financial Aid and Awards Committee will act annually by July 1 to make awards for the following school year to eligible returning students based on scholarship application and eligibility for category A ("first priority") as reflected in the record of academic pre-registration.

By July 15, the committee will complete its annual awarding process by acting on remaining scholarship applications in light of its general intent as stated above and in light of the total funds available.

Since awards are made in light of eligibility, acceptable academic performance, and potentially on level of academic registration, the committee reserves the right to review any award if a recipient's eligibility, academic performance, or level of academic registration changes in the course of a school year.

- V.** Eligibility for each student will be reviewed annually by the School of Theology's Office of Student Services. All new, transfer, and special students must complete the seminary admission process and apply for scholarship aid by July 1.

Application forms for tuition grants are available by writing to the student services coordinator, Office of Student Services, Anderson University School of Theology, 100 East Fifth St, Anderson, IN 46012-3495.