



# The Synod of the Covenant

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

## GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS NETWORK Higher Education Scholarships for Christian Leaders Scholarship Application Information

**Complete Applications are due by: May 31, 2021**

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Scholarship grants are available to students for full and part-time study toward the first baccalaureate degree or certification at colleges, universities, and vocational schools, or first master's degree in theology. Applicants will be asked to describe the ways or organizations for whom they provide Christian leadership, especially those that help churches or ministries to thrive, address structural racism, and/or engage issues of poverty (which are three of the Synod's most important goals).<sup>1</sup> Presbyterian applicants, including seminarians, are eligible to apply if they are from within the bounds of the synod and are active members of their Presbyterian church. *Applicants are eligible to apply annually, up to a maximum of 5 years.* Applicants must have and maintain a minimum of a 2.0 GPA to be eligible. All financial grants will be made payable to the session for distribution. Session will return the grant to the synod office if the student's status changes. Grants will not be considered after the application due date: May 31, 2021. Only completed applications will be considered. Special consideration will be given to applicants who are Black, Indigenous, or People of Color, and to those with significant financial need. Applicants and Sessions will be notified by June 30, 2021.

### **TYPES OF GRANTS**

*FULL-TIME STUDENTS* (9+ credits per semester)

The grant for full-time students is up to \$1500.

*PART-TIME STUDENTS* (less than 9 credits per semester)

The maximum grant for part-time students is up to \$750.

*THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS*

Students enrolled in their first master's degree program at Presbyterian theological institutions or an institution approved by the student's presbytery may be awarded a maximum of \$1,500 (FT), \$750 (PT). Proof of presbytery approval must be supplied.

---

<sup>1</sup> For more information about these three goals, please visit [Presbyterian Mission Agency Matthew 25 in the PC\(USA\): A bold vision and invitation | Presbyterian Mission Agency](#).

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

The review of applications will begin **June 1**. Applications and all requested materials and endorsement letter from pastor or moderator/clerk of session, must be submitted by the deadline to receive consideration by the scholarship committee. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered nor will they be carried forward automatically. Applicants will need to reapply annually to be considered for continued funding.

### **All applications must include:**

1. This completed Scholarship Application
2. Letter from institution to verify enrollment, and a list of classes for which you are or intend to be registered, for the upcoming academic year (Fall 2021)
3. Statement of career objectives and how this scholarship will enable the applicant to reach these objectives.
4. Statement as to how the student demonstrates Christian leadership (in the church or at school), especially those that help churches or ministries to thrive, and/or helped to address racial injustice, and/or engage anti-poverty efforts (the three main goals of the Synod).<sup>2</sup>
5. Endorsement letter from the student's pastor or clerk of session
6. The Expected Family Contribution from a completed FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form (available here: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>)

Questions can be addressed to Rev. Betty Angelini at [pastorwarrenfpc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorwarrenfpc@gmail.com) or Lisa Allgood at [lisa@cpresby.org](mailto:lisa@cpresby.org).

Applications can be completed and uploaded at [www.synodofthecovenant/grants](http://www.synodofthecovenant/grants), or completed applications should be emailed to [grants@synodofthecovenant.org](mailto:grants@synodofthecovenant.org).

Please contact the Synod Grants and Scholarships Committee using the following information:

**Grants and Scholarship Team**  
**The Synod of the Covenant**  
**[grants@synodofthecovenant.org](mailto:grants@synodofthecovenant.org)**  
**248-729-2415**

---

<sup>2</sup> For more information about these three goals, please visit [Presbyterian Mission Agency Matthew 25 in the PC\(USA\): A bold vision and invitation | Presbyterian Mission Agency](#).



# The Synod of the Covenant

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

## Grants and Scholarship Network

### HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FOR CHRISTIAN LEADERS APPLICATION

#### Personal Information

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Racial-Ethnic Background: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Pronouns (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Church Membership (Church Name): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Church Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Contact Position: Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk of Session \_\_\_\_\_

Church Contact Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Presbytery: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Educational Information

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_

Technical/Vocational School       Associates Degree

Bachelors Degree

Masters in Theology\*       Seminary\*

\* Proof of approval from the student's presbytery must be included

Degree Sought: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Year's GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Currently Full-Time or Part-Time Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Credits taking this Term: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Higher Education (list completed degrees):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Financial Information: List Financial resources available for your educational expenses**

Expenses -- Total educational expense for this academic year: \_\_\_\_\_

Income – All Salary, Scholarships, Grants and Loans awarded for this academic year: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please attach a copy of The Expected Family Contribution from a completed FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form

Have you applied for Financial Aid from your school? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Have you received a grant from Synod of the Covenant in the past? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Please list the date and amount of previous grants from the Synod of the Covenant:**

Year: _____	Amount: _____
Year: _____	Amount: _____
Year: _____	Amount: _____
Year: _____	Amount: _____

**This form must be signed by the person whose file is to be disclosed.**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, affirm that the above information is accurate and submitted to the Synod of the Covenant for the purpose of determining my eligibility for scholarship assistance.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# The Synod of the Covenant

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

## **GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS NETWORK**

### **Higher Education Scholarship for Christian Leaders Application**

### **Endorsement letter from Pastoral Leader or Clerk of Session**

Dear Pastoral Leader or Clerk of Session:

A student from your congregation is applying for an educational support scholarship offered by the Synod of the Covenant. The scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis depending on the student's enrollment and status, according to the following schedule:

- Undergraduate or vocational school students: up to full-time = \$1,500; part-time = \$750
- Theological institution students: up to full-time \$1,500; part-time = \$750

A letter from the pastoral leader or clerk of session where the student is a member or participant of the church, in good standing, is required to complete the scholarship application.

Please write a letter on church stationery (no longer than one page) about the above student addressing the following topics:

1. How long have you known the applicant?
2. Do you recommend the applicant for a scholarship from the Synod of the Covenant?
3. Is the applicant an **active** member of your church?
4. How has the student helped your congregation or another ministry to thrive, and/or helped to address racial injustice, or engaged anti-poverty efforts (the three main goals of the Synod)?<sup>3</sup>
5. Do you have additional relevant comments you wish to share?

*Pastor or clerk of session must e-mail the letter on church letterhead to the Synod's email (below) before the student's application can be considered. This is the only form of endorsement accepted. Your letter must be received by May 31, 2021, so that applications can be considered beginning 6/1/2021. Please use this same email for any questions or feedback as well.*

Questions can be addressed to Rev. Betty Angelini at [pastorwarrenfpc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorwarrenfpc@gmail.com) or Lisa Allgood at [lisa@cpresby.org](mailto:lisa@cpresby.org).

**Grants and Scholarship Team**  
**The Synod of the Covenant**  
[grants@synodofthecovenant.org](mailto:grants@synodofthecovenant.org)  
**248-729-2415**

---

<sup>3</sup> For more information about these three goals, please visit [Presbyterian Mission Agency Matthew 25 in the PC\(USA\): A bold vision and invitation | Presbyterian Mission Agency](#).