



## Financial Aid Information and Application

This booklet contains important information and the necessary forms you will need to complete if you are seeking financial aid as a student at Anderson University School of Theology.

The Boyce W. Blackwelder Tuition Assistance Scholarship is available *only* to Church of God students enrolled in the School of Theology. Included in this booklet are the administrative policies and guidelines for the Blackwelder Scholarship. Please note in Section II, “the student receiving full funds will meet the qualifications intended by the church.” *NOTE:* Each student will receive a total financial aid award package made up of the Blackwelder Scholarship and any private endowed scholarships that may be available.

Each student who requests Blackwelder Tuition Assistance must **submit a letter from the pastor of his or her church stating that the student is indeed a member of that particular Church of God (Anderson, Ind.) congregation and that they are actively participating in the life of that congregation. This letter should accompany the *Financial Aid Request Form*, which is also included in this booklet.**

It has been our practice to award financial aid packages on percentage levels for the academic year that include both Blackwelder Tuition Assistance and endowed scholarship funds. That percentage is determined by the Financial Aid and Awards Committee each year based on projected enrollment and available funds.

If you are a student and are employed by another church tradition, you will need to request a letter from either the state coordinator of the Church of God, or your home Church of God pastor affirming that you qualify under the administration policies/guidelines for the Boyce W. Blackwelder Tuition Fund for Church of God Seminarians.

**Also, please note that you must maintain at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average AND** be in preparation for professional ministry in the Church of God (see D under Section II).

Non-Church of God students are encouraged to complete the Financial Aid Request Form and will be considered for private endowed scholarships based on available funds. Non-Church of God students are also encouraged to apply for government loans and to check with their own denominations regarding scholarship funds that might be available to them.

Since the School of Theology offers several master-level degree programs, students sometimes seek multiple degrees. After a student completes one degree program and returns to seek another degree, for financial aid purposes, the student will be starting over at zero hours and aid will be awarded accordingly.

No student will receive financial aid beyond the cost of tuition each semester.

Financial aid generally will NOT be awarded to a student whose *incompletes* have NOT been removed within four months of the final day of any academic term.

**Please read all instructions and complete all requested information on the following pages. Return all materials to:**

Student Services Coordinator  
Office of Student Services  
Anderson University School of Theology  
1100 East Fifth St.  
Anderson, IN 46012-3495



|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| RECEIVED  | _____ |
| COMMITTEE | _____ |
| LETTER    | _____ |
| FILED     | _____ |

Financial Aid Request Form (Please print or type all information in black ink)

Return to: Student Services Coordinator, Anderson University School of Theology, 1100 E. 5th St., Anderson, IN 46012-3495

All information requested on this form is voluntary, but if you wish to be considered for financial aid, you must complete this form. Please answer questions completely and honestly. The Financial Aid and Awards Committee will hold all information reported on this form in strict confidence. Financial aid is generally not awarded to students who still have "incompletes" four months after the end of an academic term. Return this form by June 1 to be considered for an early award package. Awards will be made after July 1.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Number of dependent children living with you \_\_\_\_\_

For which terms are you applying? [ ] Sem. I (Aug.) [ ] Sem. II (Jan.) [ ] Summer Year \_\_\_\_\_

Number of hours you will take: Sem. I \_\_\_\_\_ Sem. II \_\_\_\_\_ Summer \_\_\_\_\_

What is your current year? [ ] Junior (0-29 hours) [ ] Middler (30-59 hours) [ ] Senior (60+ hours)

Which degree are you pursuing? [ ] DMin [ ] MDiv [ ] MTS [ ] Online MACM [ ] MAIS

Cumulative grade point average (through most recent term completed, or cumulative GPA from last school attended) \_\_\_\_\_
NOTE: The Financial Aid and Awards Committee cannot consider your application without this information.

Your faith community [ ] Church of God [ ] United Methodist [ ] Other (please list) \_\_\_\_\_

Are you an international student? [ ] Yes [ ] No

Are you married or planning to be married during the upcoming school year? [ ] Yes [ ] No

What ministry areas are you preparing for? (Check all that apply)
[ ] church planting [ ] missions [ ] youth ministry [ ] worship ministry [ ] hospital chaplaincy

Personal Finances (List estimated amounts for a 12-month period, rounded to the nearest dollar)

| <u>Income:</u>      |                 | <u>Expenses:</u>      |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Your income         | \$ _____        | Tithe                 | \$ _____        |
| Spouse's income     | \$ _____        | Housing               | \$ _____        |
| Parental support    | \$ _____        | Groceries             | \$ _____        |
| Interest on savings | \$ _____        | Automobile            | \$ _____        |
| Educational loans   | \$ _____        | Medical               | \$ _____        |
| Other income        | \$ _____        | Debt payments         | \$ _____        |
| <b>Total income</b> | <b>\$ _____</b> | Insurance             | \$ _____        |
|                     |                 | Education             | \$ _____        |
|                     |                 | Clothing              | \$ _____        |
|                     |                 | Recreation            | \$ _____        |
|                     |                 | Taxes                 | \$ _____        |
|                     |                 | Other expenses        | \$ _____        |
|                     |                 | <b>Total expenses</b> | <b>\$ _____</b> |

NOTE: Please list on a separate sheet any financial problems that you want us to take into consideration.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Boyce W. Blackwelder Tuition Fund for Church of God Seminarians

### Administration Policies/Guidelines

Read the following information. Then sign, date, and return this sheet to:

Student Services Coordinator, Anderson University School of Theology, 1100 E. 5th St., Anderson, IN 46012-3495

- I. In June 1974, the General Assembly of the Church of God (Anderson, Ind.), on recommendation of its Special Advisory Committee on Anderson University School of Theology, adopted a resolution directing the church's Division of World Service to annually raise funding from the church for the purpose of 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, Ind.) 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 and 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, 1100 East Fifth St., Anderson, IN 46012-3495.

*I have read and agree with the above "Administrative Policies/Guidelines" for the Boyce W. Blackwelder Tuition Fund for Church of God Seminarians. Should my circumstances change during the year, I will contact the Office of Student Services at the School of Theology.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_