

**GUIDELINES GOVERNING STUDENT AID
FOR THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT
OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD**

Student Aid and Seminarian Student Aid Endowment Fund Guidelines:

a. General Guidelines

- 1) Student aid is given to defray the cost of tuition for those studying to enter full-time church work within The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. The Board of Directors will review and establish annually the amount of student aid awarded to undergraduates and seminarians. The amount of student aid will be determined by the availability of funds and the number of applicants.
- 2) The Board of Directors shall approve the application for student aid of students preparing for full-time church work in The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. The student's eligibility depends on the enrollment verification furnished by the LCMS college, university, or seminary in which the student is enrolled.
- 3) Ordinarily student aid is remitted by the District Office directly to the school the recipient attends. One-half of the amount granted is given in the fall, the second half is given after January 1. Notice of remittance of student aid will be sent to the student, provided the student has supplied the District Office with an up-to-date mailing address.

b. Eligibility

- 1) The South Dakota District provides student aid to those students who are:
 - a) Communicant members in good standing in a congregation of the South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod;
 - b) Preparing to serve as rostered full-time ordained or commissioned ministers within The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod;
 - c) Attending one of the colleges, universities or seminaries of the Concordia University System.
- 2) In the granting of student aid, no distinction is made between male or female students, or between single or married students.
- 3) The student aid given by The South Dakota District is in the form of grants and will not need to be repaid. However, it is expected that students who discontinue their studies for full-time church work will repay to the District any student aid they had received. (Guidelines Governing Student Aid for The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, II, Adopted June 11-12, 2006.)

c. Application Process

- 1) The Financial Aid Offices of the Concordia University System and the seminaries have a general "District Student Aid Application." This is **NOT** the Student Aid Application used by The South Dakota District. The District has its own Student Aid Application that can be found on the District's website under "Forms and Applications."
- 2) Time of application – Students are encouraged to apply for Student Aid between February 1 and May 1 of each year. All applications should be received by the District Office by May 1 of the year prior to the school year for which aid is requested. Requests for applications and submission of applications for student aid are the responsibility of the student. Applications received after the deadline

may not be considered. Synodical schools desire to have scholarship information by June 1.

- 3) Applicants should keep the Guidelines, returning only the Application form to The South Dakota District Office, The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, PO Box 89110, Sioux Falls, SD 57109-9110.

(Board of Directors Resolution, June 8-9, 2008)

d. Additional Financial Assistance

Student Aid from the District is granted for the sole purpose of defraying the cost of tuition for the student or seminarian. There are other educational costs (e.g. fees, textbooks, room and board, etc.) and expenses (e.g. automobile, health insurance, personal items, etc.) that a student or seminarian will incur.

- a) When financial assistance is needed to meet other expenses, the student or seminarian may reach out to their home congregation or their home congregation's auxiliary organizations (e.g. LWML, Ladies Aid, men's group, etc.) for financial assistance with these costs.
- b) The student or seminarian may not, however, contact other congregations or their auxiliary organizations of The South Dakota District with a direct appeal for financial assistance.
- c) The student or seminarian will contact the District Office to make the Executive Secretary aware of their financial need.
- d) If the Executive Secretary determines that the student or seminarian has demonstrated a valid need for financial assistance, he may make the student's or seminarian's financial need known to the congregations, schools, professional church workers, and auxiliary organizations of the District. The Executive Secretary may then assist in arranging direct financial gifts from congregations, schools, or their auxiliary organizations to the student or seminarian in need.

(Board of Directors Resolution, September 14-16, 2014)