GRADUATE RENEWAL
BGCT MINISTRY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Deadlines

October 15, 2015
(Fall 2015 & Spring 2016)

March 15, 2016
(Spring 2016)
SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

- Applicants must be active in a BGCT church (visit www.texasbaptists.org/churches to see if your church is a BGCT church).

- Applicants must have a sense and show evidence of a divine call to a career in vocational or bi-vocational church-related Christian ministry.

- Applicants must demonstrate a lifestyle of commitment to the principles of the Christian life.

- Application covers financial assistance through the academic year.

- Applicants must reapply each fall semester by submitting: (1) a renewal application, (2) a typed personal testimony detailing a call to a career in vocational/bi-vocational church-related Christian ministry, (3) an endorsement from their church of a calling and active membership, and (4) the appropriate Blackboard requirements (excluding doctoral students).

- Applicants must be working toward a graduate degree program within the Graduate School of Ministry or Cook School of Leadership.

- Applicants must maintain a minimum cumulative graduate GPA of 3.0.

- Applicants must be active participants with the Ministry Student Program. See the Ministry Fellowship link on Blackboard for additional information (excluding doctoral students).

- Application is for DBU Ministerial Scholarship as well.
APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- **STEP ONE:** Ministry Student Scholarship Application
  
  *Please complete all blanks with the accurate information* (pp 4-5).

- **STEP TWO:** Personal Typed Testimony
  
  You must submit an essay (250-word minimum) detailing your personal call to a career in vocational/bi-vocational church-related Christian ministry. Be as specific as possible regarding the details of your call and what type of ministry you feel called to pursue.

- **STEP THREE:** (1) Church Endorsement, and (2) Pastor Letter of Recommendation.
  
  Your church pastor or official must endorse you as an actively involved member with a divine call to Christian ministry, committing to a career in vocational/bi-vocational church-related Christian ministry (pp 6-7) and submit a letter of recommendation.

- **STEP FOUR:** Return your completed application to the Ministry Student Office in Pilgrim Chapel – Suite 306 or by mail, e-mail, or fax. You should include your name on every page to ensure all pages make it into the appropriate file.
Pastor or Church Leader and Student,

Each applicant to the Ministerial Financial Assistance program of the Baptist General Convention of Texas (BGCT), must annually reaffirm their call to church-related vocational ministry and furnish evidence, by way of written testimony of the pastor (or church leader) or the student’s involvement with, support of, and commitment to a local cooperating BGCT church.

The forms below (student and pastor/church leader) will provide the necessary evidence.

In providing this evidence, the church commits their support, along with other BGCT churches, to this ministry student.

Thank you for joining in this sacred trust.

The Theological Education Council, BGCT

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**INSTRUCTION FOR STUDENT**

Complete the *Student Information Section* (p 4),

sign and date the *Student Covenant* (p 5),

and return completed forms to the Ministry Student Office

at Dallas Baptist University.

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**INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHURCH LEADER**

Complete and sign the *Church Certification and Church Information* sections (pp 6-7) and submit a letter of recommendation from the pastor.

*Renewal students must be certified by a cooperating Baptist General Convention of Texas church.*
STUDENT INFORMATION

Personal Information
Permanent Address: _______________________________________________________
City, State, Zip: _______________________________________________________
Preferred Phone: _______________________________________________________
DBU E-mail: ___________________________________ required: contact computer lab
Personal E-mail: __________________________________________ required

Church Information
Name of Church: _______________________________________________________
Church Address: _______________________________________________________
Pastor/Church Leader: ___________________________________________________
Pastor/Church Leader E-mail: ____________________________________________

Academic Information
Degree Program(s): _____________________________________________________
Academic Year Applying For: _____________________________________________
Anticipated Graduation Date: ____________________________________________

Please return completed forms to the Dallas Baptist University Ministry Student Office.
3000 Mountain Creek Pkwy, Dallas TX 75211
Phone: 214.333.5574
E-mail: ministrygrant@dbu.edu
Fax: 214.333.5115
GRADUATE RENEWAL
BGCT MINISTRY SCHOLARSHIP
FOR STUDENT

STUDENT COVENANT

Whereas Texas Baptist churches have committed their cooperative missions funds to providing financial assistance to men and women who are preparing for ministry vocations in the church and,
Whereas Texas Baptist universities have committed to providing theological education that prepares students for vocations in church-related ministries and,
Whereas I have sensed the call of God in my life to prepare for a vocation in a church-related ministry (such as pastor, church staff, missionary, chaplain);
I hereby enter into a covenant relationship with the churches of the Baptist General Convention of Texas to honor the sacred trust they have placed in me through their financial support and,
Should I come to a point in my understanding of God’s will for my life that I no longer sense a call to a church-related vocation, I will immediately inform university officials and no longer accept this financial assistance provided by the churches of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

During the preceding academic year at Dallas Baptist University, I have been an active member of a BGCT church and have been involved with, supportive of, and committed to the ministries of this church in the following ways:

Paid leadership responsibilities: __________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
Volunteer leadership or service: __________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
Other involvement or means of support: ____________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Sign the following affirmation, request your pastor (or other church approved leader if student is pastor) to complete pp 6-7, then return the completed forms along with any other materials required by your institution.

I hereby affirm my covenant with the churches, my sense of calling to a church-related vocation and my desire to receive the Ministerial Financial Assistance provided by the churches of the Baptist General Convention of Texas; and I promise to remain in compliance with the requirements of the BGCT and this partner institution.

Student's Signature: __________________________ Date: ___________
Student Name: ____________________________________  Student ID: ____________

Statement of Certification:

If the church has not ordained or licensed this student, the following statement must be affirmed by the congregation.

We hereby certify that ____________________________________________

(name of student)

• is involved with, supportive of, and committed to the ministries of this BGCT church,
• has shown evidence of a divine call to church-related vocational ministry,
• has shown sincere commitment to a career in church-related ministry,
• has demonstrated a Christian life-style, and
• is the kind of person our church would be comfortable recommending as a minister to serve in a church-related vocational position.

Please check the appropriate section below:

This congregation affirmed this student’s involvement in our church as noted on page 5 of the form. This congregational certification has been acted upon by:

☐ Ordination of student on ______________________________.
   (date)

☐ Licensing of student on ______________________________.
   (date)

☐ Adoption of the statement of certification above by congregation on __________________________.
   (date)

   OR

☐ Adoption of the statement of certification above by:

☐ Church Committee
☐ Deacons
☐ Elders or other governing board
☐ Council of church staff members
☐ Other (please describe):

   representing the congregation on __________________________.
   (date)

☐ I have talked with this student to discuss (1) the student’s sense of call to church-related vocational ministry and (2) ways that the student might be involved in service at our church.

☐ I affirm this student’s application for the Ministerial Financial Assistance.
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FOR CHURCH LEADER

Student Name: _________________________________ Student ID: __________

Church Leader
Pastor’s or Church Leader’s Name (Printed): ________________________________
Pastor’s E-mail address: ____________________________________________________
Position at Church: ________________________________________________________
Telephone Number: ________________________________________________________
Signature: _______________________________________________________________
Date: ___________________________________________________________________

Church
Name of Church: __________________________________________________________
Mailing Address: __________________________________________________________
City, State, Zip: ___________________________________________________________

Denominational Affiliations
Baptist Association: ________________________________________________________
City, State: ______________________________________________________________
Baptist state convention: ____________________________________________________
Baptist affiliations, national: ________________________________________________
Signed: _________________________________________________________________
(Church Clerk)

Signed: _________________________________________________________________
(Pastor or church approved leader if student is pastor)

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