

**The Fund  
for Candidates for Ordination Scholarships  
and Education Debt Relief for Pastors called into Blackhawk Presbytery**

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this fund is to:

- (1) provide scholarships to candidates for ordination under the care of Blackhawk Presbytery for expenses related to preparation for ministry.
- (2) provide education debt assistance to persons called into installed pastoral positions in Blackhawk Presbytery who have existing debt from undergraduate and/or Master of Divinity education.

**Eligibility and Amounts:**

Persons who are in the candidacy phase of their preparation for ordination under the care of Blackhawk Presbytery are eligible to apply for a candidacy scholarship, up to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for expenses related to their preparation for ministry including, but not limited to; tuition, fees, materials, housing, medical, and daily expenses. Each person may apply for one additional five hundred-dollar (\$500.00) scholarship in a subsequent year.

Persons who are called into installed pastoral positions, whose effective salary does not exceed 125% of the Presbytery minimum, who have existing educational debt from undergraduate or Master of Divinity education are eligible to apply for one Educational Debt Relief grant of up to \$1,500 within the first three (3) years of that pastoral position to pay down education debt.

**Application and Administration:**

Application for Candidacy Scholarships shall be made to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. The committee will review the application and make a recommendation to the Presbytery Council regarding approval.

Application for Education Debt Relief shall be made to the Commission on Ministry. The Executive Committee of the Commission will review the application and make a recommendation to the Presbytery Council regarding approval.

The Presbytery Council shall normally follow the recommendation of the reviewing body if there are sufficient funds and the annual maximum disbursement will not be exceeded by approval of the application. Unless and until changed by the Presbytery the maximum annual disbursement shall be set at five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00). The Presbytery Council may request, from the Presbytery, exceptions to the annual limitation for good reason.

**APPLICATION FOR**  
**Candidates for Ordination Scholarship and Education Debt Relief**

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Applying for: Candidacy Scholarship \_\_\_\_\_ Education Debt Relief \_\_\_\_\_

Please give a brief description of why you are applying. If you are applying for Education Debt Relief, attach the most recent bill(s) for all educational debt.

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Attach additional sheets if necessary

Mail Application to:  
Presbytery of Blackhawk  
PO Box 476  
Oregon, IL 61061

Or email to: [Office@blackhawkpresbytery.org](mailto:Office@blackhawkpresbytery.org)

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Date received by Presbytery: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed by: CPM\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ COM\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation: Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Attached Rationale \_\_\_\_\_

Council Action:

Concur with recommendation \_\_\_\_\_ Do not concur with recommendation \_\_\_\_\_

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