

Immanuel UCC Endowment Guidelines

for Seminary Students, Members in Discernment, and Authorized Ministers

Updated, March 2022

It was the desire of Immanuel United Church of Christ - Detroit, as it was disbanding, to award scholarships for seminary students preparing for Ordination and Service in the United Church of Christ. Since that initial decision, the scholarship has expanded to include Members in Discernment (MID's) pursuing a multiple path to ministry, and continuing education for Authorized Ministers. Scholarship funds are available through an endowment fund provided by Immanuel United Church of Christ - Detroit by a resolution adopted at a Special Congregational Meeting held on November 14, 1999. The fund will be disbursed in accordance with the policies and practices of the Michigan Conference of the United Church of Christ. The Faith Formation Mission Area Team is currently responsible for selecting recipients.

The committee will give priority to Members in Discernment applying for scholarships. The deadline for submitting applications (or renewal requests) is **May 1 of the current year**. Awards are granted during the summer so that funds can be disbursed at the beginning of the Fall seminary schedules. A student is eligible for the scholarship for a maximum of three (3) Full Time years or equivalent (e.g. four to six Part Time years). As funds allow, awards will also be available on a rolling basis after June 1st, for continuing education for authorized ministers actively involved in conference, parish or specialized ministry. A separate application is available for these candidates.

Qualifications - an applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Be a member of a United Church of Christ congregation within the Michigan Conference
- Be listed as a Member in Discernment (formerly Student in Care) or a clergy person with standing in one of the Associations of the Michigan Conference
- Be enrolled in
 - an ATS theological seminary recognized by the United Church of Christ
 - an accredited CPE program
 - regional educational program as recommended by their Association's Committee on Ministry.
- Be committed to becoming an authorized minister in the United Church of Christ
- Write a 2-3 paragraph essay on *"What is the gift for you in this legacy from Immanuel United Church of Christ, and how will you pass it on in the future?"*
- Only in the case of limited funds, preference in awarding scholarships will be given to students meeting the following criteria, in line with the original wishes of Immanuel UCC
 - Students with a tie to Immanuel United Church of Christ – Detroit
 - Students enrolled in an MDiv program in a C.U.E. seminary (Chicago, United, Eden)

- Students willing to serve as an authorized parish minister within the Michigan Conference

A scholarship may be used for tuition, living expenses, fees and books, with the amount awarded made payable directly to the seminary or approved regional educational program where the student is enrolled. Depending on the amount available, more than one scholarship may be awarded each year -- to-date, we have awarded scholarships annually to multiple students. A scholarship recipient may request additional funds in a succeeding year.