

**GUIDELINES FOR AWARDING OF STUDENT AID –
WYOMING DISTRICT
February 2009**

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Student Aid fund is to provide financial assistance for the men and women of the Wyoming District to train for full-time service in the church.

GUIDELINES

- 1) Applicants will file the FAFSA Form (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and **mail the completed form to Federal Student Aid Program, P.O. Box 4008, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864-8608**. This FAFSA form may be obtained in an electronic version called “FAFSA Express” via Internet at <http://www.ed.gov>.
- 2) Applicants must also complete the Wyoming District Application Form and Section 1 of the District Financial Aid Application – LCMS.
- 3) District financial aid is available only to those students who can show a genuine need for such assistance. Financial aid will be based on the unmet needs of the student as specified by your university, college, or seminary. However, students who apply will receive a minimum amount of assistance per semester, regardless of need, the amount to be determined each year by the Commission. This amount for the 2008/2009 year will be \$500 per semester.
- 4) Financial aid is available to all men and women attending a Synodical-operated college or university for the purpose of preparing for full-time service in the church. To be eligible for assistance the applicant must be actively attending a Synodical operated university or seminary the semester for which funds are to be disbursed.
- 5) The application deadline for filing applications with the District shall be **May 1**. For those applicants contemplating their training to start in the second (2nd) semester, the deadline for filing applications with the District shall be **October 1**. Late applications will not normally be accepted; but they may be considered under extenuating circumstances.
- 6) Assistance is awarded for one school year at a time. A **new application** must be filed **each year** for which assistance is desired.
- 7) All applicants must hold communicant membership in a parish within the Wyoming District.
- 8) Students who receive assistance from the Wyoming District and transfer their communicant membership to a parish in another District shall continue to receive such assistance to the close of the school year in which the transfer took place.
- 9) Students are expected to seek summer employment to supplement their financial needs. If your expected summer employment will amount to less than \$1,000, please explain on a separate sheet of paper and include with your Wyoming District Application Form.
- 10) Students shall not let extracurricular activities eliminate involvement in a work study program to help supplement a portion of their financial needs.
- 11) Financial assistance is not ordinarily awarded for summer school.

- 12) Financial assistance is not awarded to students during vicarage or internship.
- 13) Applications for assistance for post-graduate work shall be considered only in exceptional cases.
- 14) Financial assistance is available to fifth year students and to those who are entering full time church work from previous careers or training.
- 15) A formula will be used for the awarding of financial aid. The formula will be derived as follows: (Example)
 Assume financial aid funds from the District are \$20,000 and total of all student unmet needs are \$65,000.
 This would then result in the District being able to assist in providing .3076% of the student's unmet needs.
 Accordingly then each student would receive .3076% of his/her unmet needs from the funds available through the Wyoming District, LCMS, as their financial aid.
- 16) In the event any District funds awarded are not used, those funds will be allocated to all applicants on a formula derived on the same basis as the original financial aid. Example:
 Assume there is \$2,000 in financial aid not used.
 This amount would be divided by the original total unmet needs of \$65,000.
 This would result in a percentage of .0307%.
 Accordingly then each student would receive .0307% of his/her unmet needs.
- 17) A student who discontinues or suspends his/her preparations for full-time service in the Church must immediately **notify** the Facilitator of the Student Aid Committee of his/her decision. We also encourage you to notify any other sources of aid, like a congregation, LWML, etc., about your decision.

It is understood that the student, if he/she discontinues or suspends preparation for full-time Church work, he/she will repay the financial aid received to the Wyoming District for that period, or for the previous year(s) if not entering full-time Church work.

If you received financial aid from a congregation or other sources, we encourage you to repay that financial aid also.

If you marry a student preparing for full-time church work and you do not continue your study of full-time church work, you do not need to repay the financial aid that you have received from the Wyoming District.

Procedure for Making Applications

- 1) Complete the District Application Form, and sign a copy of the Guidelines for Awarding of Student Aid and mail to the Facilitator of the Student Aid Committee before **May 1**.
- 2) The Wyoming District shall be instructed to make payment in behalf of the student directly to the business office of the school attended by the student.
- 3) The student will be informed of the amount awarded to them by the start of the school term.

I certify that I have read the above guidelines and agree to the terms indicated.

Signature _____ Date _____

2/2009