The Wesleyan Church

Ministerial Student Aid

Loan/Grant Application Packet

Education & Clergy Development • education@wesleyan.org

The Ministerial Student Aid Program is a loan program administered by The Wesleyan Church through the Education and Clergy Development Division. The loan only becomes a grant as the recipient serves The Wesleyan Church under a qualifying appointment. Applicants should understand that in requesting aid from this program they are applying for a loan, which must be either repaid or cancelled through service.

General Stipulations for Eligibility

For Ministerial Students and Ministerial Candidates

1. ***Local Church Membership***. The student must be a covenant member of a local Wesleyan church.
2. ***District Approval***. The student is to consult with and be examined and approved by the District Board of Ministerial Development (DBMD), and must be granted the status of ministerial student, licensed minister or ordained/commissioned minister by the district conference (or by the District Board of Administration in the interim of district conference sessions) prior to the beginning of the semester in which aid is sought. Initial certification and subsequent annual re-certification by the DBMD through its chairperson or secretary as to the district status of the student for the current school year is required.
3. ***Division of Education & Clergy Development Enrollment***. The student must be enrolled with Education & Clergy Development. Enrollment forms are found at www.wesleyan.org/ECD.

A) Institutional Approval

An official of the school at which the student is enrolled must certify:

1. the number of school semester hours for which the student is enrolled,
2. total accumulated semester credit hours,
3. the student's classification,
4. the student's grade point average, which must be at least 2.0 on a four-point scale.

B) Status of Student

1. Undergraduate students must be enrolled in a Wesleyan Church-owned college or university. Graduate students are to attend an approved seminary or Wesleyan graduate program.

2. The student must be a member and ministerial student of the North American General Conference, training for church ministry, and enrolled in a major that includes the courses required for ordination.

3. The student must indicate his/her desire and intention to serve under appointment by one of the districts of The Wesleyan Church in the U. S. or Canada in a capacity where cancellation can occur (see D:1:c).

4. Aid may begin in the junior year of college and be granted for a maximum of five full years – that is 64 credit hours for the junior and senior years of college and three additional years of theological training, including any combination of the following which does not exceed three years: a fifth year in college, or graduate level work in theology leading to a one-year, two-year, or three-year degree. (see C:2)

5. Aid is available for special sessions (summer or between semesters) subject to the availability of funds.

6. While receiving aid, the student shall report by the fifth week of each semester to the properly designated person at the Wesleyan college/university concerning his/her church attendance and involvement for that semester. College/university personnel shall cooperate with the Executive Director of Education & Clergy Development in counseling students into meaningful local church relationships (giving priority to Wesleyan church attendance and service) as a condition for continued student aid.

7. A District Certification (status) form is included with each application package and is required annually. The student should send this to the chair of his/her District Board of Ministerial Development for signature. This form should be signed **following** the approval for district appointment of the student for the **current year for which aid is requested**. Renewal applications require this form annually.

C) Loan-Grant

1. The amount of loan-grant is determined each year on the basis of funds available by a formula approved by the General Board.

2. The loan-grant funds are distributed on a per-hour basis, with a maximum of sixty-four (64) semester hours on the undergraduate level and ninety (90) semester hours on the graduate level.

D) Repayment of Loan-Grant

1. Cancellation of loan:
   a) For each year of full-time district appointment in The Wesleyan Church (Sept 1 through Aug 31) **following studies**, twenty percent (20%) of the loan will be cancelled after the service is rendered and reported. Cancellation cannot be given in the same church year that one receives loan-grant funds.
   b) Each student is considered as having a single loan-grant account, though it may be divided into undergraduate and graduate funds. If a student has an undergraduate loan-grant and enrolls in graduate theological training while pastoring full-time, cancellation will be granted for the undergraduate portion of the loan-grant.
   c) Report of service shall be made annually by the recipient of the loan on the annual status form available on the Education & Clergy Development's website: www.wesleyan.org/ecd.
   d) Appointment by the district must be to ministerial service (as defined by the church; see *Discipline 3250*) under employment by The Wesleyan Church, or by one of its approved institutions. Appointment to interchurch services **does not** qualify for cancellation.
2. Deferment of repayments may be granted if the student continues graduate studies for work in The Wesleyan Church, but is either not eligible for further loans or does not desire the aid. The student must apply annual for this deferment on the annual status form.
3. For those who do not serve in The Wesleyan church after graduation or termination of their ministerial studies, **whether because of personal choices or from lack of opportunity,** repayment of the loan shall begin.
4. If a borrower fails to keep faith with their commitment to this agreement, we reserve the right to send an account to collections.
5. After termination of training, it is always the duty of the recipient of a loan-grant to keep the office of the Education & Clergy Development Division informed of any address or appointment change or change in contact information.

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Procedures for Applying for Loan-Grant First-time Applicants

1. The student must complete and submit the application form to education@wesleyan.org.
2. The student should fill out the top section of the District Certification Form and send it to the Chairperson of his/her district board of ministerial development (DBMD). This should be done following the annual district conference just before the school year. Your DMBD must complete, sign and date the bottom section of this form and return it to education@wesleyan.org.
3. The Certificate of Enrollment's top section must be completed by the student and then given to the college or university for its completion.
4. Complete the Institutional Authorization form and give it to educational institution for filing in the institution's office.
5. Request transcript(s) of all post high school work through the end of the last term of academic work completed.
6. Mail your complete application packet to the Division of Education & Clergy Development for processing of the check. When your check arrives, sign the promissory note enclosed with the check and return it **immediately** to the proper office of your educational institution.

Procedures for Renewing Your Loan-Grant

1. When requesting additional loan-grant funds, the student must complete and submit a Financial Aid Renewal Application form and turn it in to his/her college or university.
2. District Certification is needed once a year only, generally in the fall after district conference.

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Application for Loan/Grant Assistance

Education & Clergy Development • education@wesleyan.org

I. Personal Information

Name _____
Last First Middle

Home Address _____

_____

Soc. Sec. No. _____ Email _____

Telephone _____ Cell _____

Your Gender ☐ Male ☐ Female Date of Birth _____

Marital Status ☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Widowed ☐ Divorced

If married, name of spouse _____

Applicant's Parents (or someone who will always know your address):

Name _____ Phone _____

Home Address _____

_____

Spouse's Parents:

Name _____ Phone _____

Home Address _____

_____

Covenant Membership _____
Church City St/Province

II. Ministerial Information

Applicant's District _____

I have met with my DBMD and have been listed by the District Conference as:

(Check only one)

- ☐ Ministerial Student
- ☐ Licensed Minister
- ☐ Ordained Minister

III. Educational Experience

All Colleges Previously Attended:

Name	Location	Major	Degree	Year

Please have all transcripts mailed to our office. See last form in this packet.

Situation for which application is now being made:

Name of Institution _____

Planned Graduation Date _____ Degree _____

Classification _____ GPA _____

IV. Commitment

1. I hereby apply for financial aid as a student at the above institution and understand that this is a loan that becomes a grant upon appointment by and service in The Wesleyan Church for five years.
2. I also declare that it is my purpose to devote my life to the ordained ministry under the direction of God through appointment in The Wesleyan Church by a district of the United States or Canada.
3. I understand this application is a reaffirmation of my membership vows in The Wesleyan Church and is interpreted to mean that I cordially accept the Articles of Religion, Membership Commitments, Elementary Principles and church polity as set forth in the Discipline of The Wesleyan Church as the exponent of my faith and rule of conduct.
4. While preparing for my ministry, I will cooperate with the work of The Wesleyan Church, and my district, to the fullest measure consistent with my educational program.
5. While in training, I will report concerning my church attendance and involvement to the proper campus personnel.
6. I request and authorize the Education & Clergy Development Division to submit my confidential records, including transcripts that have been provided, to Church officials and district leaders and boards as needed to supervise my progress toward ordination.

_____ _____

Signature *Date*

Return Forms to Education & Clergy Development no later than:

October 15 for fall semester/fall quarter
January 15 for winter quarter
February 28 for January session, spring semester, spring quarter

The Wesleyan Church
Ministerial Student Aid

District Certification

Education & Clergy Development
education@wesleyan.org

To _____
Chairperson, District Board of Ministerial Development

District _____

Dear Madam/Sir:
Will you please complete the following form and return this sheet to the address indicated below? This certification should be made following the district conference just before the school year. You are certifying that the below-named person is a ministerial student intending to be ordained within The Wesleyan Church.

Your prompt consideration will help us expedite the financial aid program benefiting the ministerial students of our Church.

Thank you

Russ Gunsalus, Executive Director
Education & Clergy Development Division

I hereby certify that _____
Student's name (please print)

has been approved by the DBMD as a student in training in The Wesleyan Church of

the _____ District. The student is listed this coming year as:

(Check only one)
- ☐ Ministerial Student
- ☐ Licensed Minister
- ☐ Ordained Minister

He/she is presently pursuing ministerial studies at _____
Educational Institution

Date _____

Signature of Chairperson or Secretary
DMBD _____

Please return this form to the education@wesleyan.org

Pages 8 and 9 have been deleted. Please proceed to page 10.

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Transcript Request

Education & Clergy Development • education@wesleyan.org

Student:

It is necessary for the Education & Clergy Development Division of The Wesleyan Church to have a transcript(s) of all post high school work through the end of the last term of academic work. Present this complete form to the Registrar with the request that your transcript be mailed to us.

_____
Name of Institution

_____
Address

_____
City *State/Province* *Postal Code*

Registrar:

Please send my transcript to:

The Wesleyan Church
Education & Clergy Development
Loan-Grant Program
P. O. Box 50434
Indianapolis, IN 46250-0434

Thank you.

_____
Student's Name

_____
Address

_____
City *State* *Zip Code*

_____
Student's Signature

_____
Social Security Number