

# The United Methodist Loans and Scholarships Program

Assisting Another Generation of  
Christian Leaders with Their Educational Goals

## The United Methodist Scholarship Program

The United Methodist Scholarship Program is a church-wide educational service providing scholarships to help supplement the financial needs of today's students. Funding for these scholarships is provided through Special Sundays offerings, wills, annuities, the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation, and other designated gifts. The Office of Loans and Scholarships provides scholarship funds as:

- annual monetary allocations directly to United Methodist colleges, universities, and seminaries. Students may apply directly to the school for application and eligibility criteria.
- annual allocations to each Annual Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry. Students may apply directly to their annual conference for the Conference Merit Scholarship.
- scholarship awards directly to eligible students upon receipt and review of their scholarship application.

### **Students need to complete only one application.**

Applications are reviewed by members of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) staff, United Methodist Higher Education Foundation directors, and other affiliated representatives.

The Scholarship Department administers a number of small scholarship programs from wills, annuities and designated gifts in addition to those listed in this brochure. Application information will be used to determine the program for which the student is most eligible. **Applications and all backup documentation should be remitted to the Scholarship Department ten (10) working days PRIOR to the published deadline to ensure that the application is complete by the deadline date.** Incomplete applications may not be considered by the scholarship committees.

## Scholarships for Undergraduate and/or Graduate Students

### The Edith M. Allen Scholarship

This scholarship is for outstanding African-American graduate or undergraduate students pursuing a degree in education, social work, medicine, and/or other health pro-

fessions. Preference will be given to students enrolled at a United Methodist historically Black college.

### ✓ **Eligibility requirements**

Applicant must:

- be enrolled at a United Methodist college or university
- have a B+ average
- be an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **three** years
- be recognized as one whose academic and vocational contributions will help improve the quality of life for others

### **Application procedure**

Application may be obtained from the Office of Loans and Scholarships between January 1 and May 1 preceding the academic year award is to be used. Completed application and all required supporting documents must be received no later than **May 15**. A student must reapply for each academic year.

## The E. Craig Brandenburg Graduate Award

These awards are for persons desiring to make positive contributions to society and who have special needs due to a change of profession/vocation, interrupted study, or for continuing education.

### ✓ **Eligibility requirements**

Applicant must be:

- 35 years of age or older
- an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **one** year prior to application
- enrolled in an accredited educational institution
- a full-time degree candidate

### **Application procedure**

Application may be obtained from the Office of Loans and Scholarships between December 15 and February 15 preceding the academic year award is to be used. Completed application and all required supporting documents must be received no later than **March 1**. A student must reapply each academic year.

\*Members of other Methodist denominations are not eligible.

## Gift of Hope: 21st Century Scholars Program

This \$1,000 scholarship will provide support to United Methodist students who are already in leadership in the church and will continue to be leaders once they graduate. The program will benefit students attending any regionally accredited academic institution in the U.S. Deadline is **May 1**.

### ✓ Eligibility requirements

- must be an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **three** years prior to applying
- must demonstrate leadership in The United Methodist Church (i.e., UMYF officer; campus ministry/student movement activity; Annual Conference, Jurisdictional Conference, or General Conference participation; church sponsored mission project participant; local church Council on Ministries member, etc.)
- must show how their education will provide leadership for the church and society and improve the quality of life of others
- must be a citizen, permanent resident of the U.S., or a member of the Central Conferences of The United Methodist Church. Students from the Central Conferences must be enrolled in a United Methodist-related institution in the U.S. and provide letter of recommendation from president of United Methodist-related school where enrolled
- must be in a full-time degree program at a regionally accredited educational institution in the U.S.
- must be an undergraduate student. Cumulative grade point averages of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- financial need will be considered

### ✍ Application procedure

Application may be obtained from the Office of Loans and Scholarships between January 1 and April 15 preceding the academic year award is to be used. Completed application and all required supporting documents must be received no later than **May 1**. A student must reapply for each academic year.

## The HANA Scholarship

HANA Scholarships, funded by the World Service Fund, assist young persons of Hispanic, Asian, Native American/Alaskan Indian, or Pacific Islander origin to prepare for leadership in The United Methodist Church and in their HANA communities.

### ✓ Eligibility requirements

- Applicant must be:
- born of Hispanic, Asian, Native American/Alaskan Indian, or Pacific Islander parentage (at least one parent)
  - an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\*

for at least **one** year prior to application

- a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.
- a full-time college junior, senior, or graduate student in an accredited educational institution in the U.S.
- able to identify with his/her particular ethnicity
- able to identify academic ability
- able to demonstrate financial need

### ✍ Application procedure

Application may be obtained from the Office of Loans and Scholarships between January 1 and March 15 preceding the academic year award is to be used. Completed application and all required supporting documents must be received no later than **April 1**. A student must reapply for each academic year.

## The J. A. Knowles Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship, derived from funds established by a will, is limited to students who are Texas residents attending United Methodist schools in Texas.

### ✓ Eligibility requirements

Applicant must be:

- an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **one** year prior to application
- a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.
- enrolled in a United Methodist-related school in Texas
- a full-time degree candidate

### ✍ Application procedure

Further information may be obtained from the Office of Loans and Scholarships, the United Methodist scholarship representative, or the director of financial aid at the following United Methodist schools in Texas. Schools determine deadline date.

Huston-Tillotson College  
Lon Morris College  
McMurry College  
Southern Methodist University  
Southwestern University  
Wiley College  
Texas Wesleyan College  
Perkins School of Theology

## Scholarships for Undergraduate Students Only

### The Ernest I. and Eurice Miller Bass Scholarship

Derived from a will, this scholarship is for undergraduate students preparing for elders or deacons orders or other helping professions. Preference is given to persons preparing for religious vocations. Applicant's grades should be above average.

### ✓ **Eligibility requirements**

Applicant must be:

- an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **one** year prior to application
- enrolled full time in an accredited institution
- working on an undergraduate degree
- a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.

### **Application procedure**

Application may be obtained from the Office of Loans and Scholarships between January 1 and May 1 preceding the academic year award is to be used. Completed application and all required supporting documents must be received no later than **May 15**. A student must reapply for each academic year.

## Bishop Joseph B. Bethea Scholarship

This scholarship is sponsored by the Southeastern Jurisdiction Black Methodists for Church Renewal in memory of Bishop Bethea's lifelong commitment to Christian higher education and was established to assist African-American students in obtaining a basic college education.

### ✓ **Eligibility requirements**

Student must:

- be a member of Southeastern Jurisdiction Black Methodists for Church Renewal
- be of African-American (Black) parentage (at least one parent)
- be an active, full member of a United Methodist Church\* for at least one year prior to applying and be recommended by pastor
- be able to establish the need for financial aid
- be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.
- be an undergraduate student in an accredited institution of higher education
- be a full-time degree candidate
- have a B- (2.8) or above grade point average

### **Application procedure**

Application forms may be obtained from the SEJ-BMCR Joseph Bethea Scholarship Committee or the Office of Loans and Scholarships between January 1 and April 15 preceding the academic year award is to be used. Completed application and all backup documentation must be received no later than **May 1**.

## The Helen and Allen Brown Scholarship

This fund provides financial assistance to outstanding high school graduates and undergraduate college students who are pursuing a college degree and are members of the Nashville District of the Tennessee Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church or members of the New Orleans District of the Louisiana Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church.

\*Members of other Methodist denominations are not eligible.

### ✓ **Eligibility requirements**

Student must:

- be an active member of The United Methodist Church\* for a least **three** years prior to applying, be recommended by their pastor, and be currently a member of a church in the New Orleans District of the Louisiana Conference or the Nashville District of the Tennessee Conference
- have a B (3.0) average or above
- be able to demonstrate financial need
- be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.

### **Application procedure**

Application may be requested from the Office of Loans and Scholarships or the Helen and Allen Brown Scholarship Committee, Clark Memorial United Methodist Church, 1014 14th Ave. North, Nashville, TN 37208. Applications are available between January 1 and April 1 preceding the academic year award is to be used. Completed application and all required supporting documents must be received no later than **May 1**.

## The Allan Jerome Burry Scholarship

This scholarship is designed to recognize a United Methodist student's outstanding academic performance, leadership skills, and participation in the activities of a United Methodist-related campus ministry or chaplaincy program at his/her college or university.

### ✓ **Eligibility requirements**

Applicant must:

- be an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **three** years and be nominated by their campus ministry unit or college chaplain
- be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S. OR a member of a Central Conference of The United Methodist Church
- have a B+ cumulative academic average
- document financial need

### **Application procedure**

Request application from campus minister/chaplain. Selected student from each campus ministry/chaplaincy program should be nominated by campus minister/chaplain. Nomination form, application, and statement, should be returned to the Office of Loans and Scholarships by **February 1**.

## Conference Merit Award

These awards are funded by 10 percent of each annual conference's total response to the Student Day Offering for the previous year. Participating annual conferences of The United Methodist Church may award one or more scholarships to United Methodist students who reside in the

conference and who are or will be attending a United Methodist-related college or university. Further information, including guidelines and an application form, may be obtained from the chairperson of the annual conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry. Amount of the award and deadline for receipt of the application is set by each annual conference.

## The Ethnic Minority Scholarship

The Ethnic Minority Scholarship is for students in full-time undergraduate study in any accredited college/university in the U.S. These awards are funded from a percentage of the World Communion Offering received annually throughout the church on the first Sunday in October.

### ✓ Eligibility requirements

Applicant must:

- be born of African, African-American, Asian, Hispanic, Native American/ Alaskan Indian, or Pacific Islander parentage (at least one parent)
- be an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **one** year prior to application
- be a full-time degree candidate
- be recommended by his/her pastor, a lay person in his/her church, and a teacher/professor
- have a 2.5 or higher grade point average
- be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S. OR a member of a Central Conference of The United Methodist Church nominated by the president of the United Methodist school where enrolled
- be able to demonstrate financial need

### Application procedure

Application may be obtained from the Office of Loans and Scholarships between January 1 and April 15 preceding the academic year award is to be used. Completed application and all required supporting documents must be received no later than **May 1**. A student must reapply for each academic year.

## The Priscilla R. Morton Scholarship

Limited funds for this scholarship were established from a will to be used for full-time undergraduate students of high scholastic standing. Award preference is given to students with a 3.5 or higher **college** grade point average attending United Methodist schools.

### ✓ Eligibility requirements

Applicant must be:

- an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **one** year prior to application
- enrolled in an accredited institution working toward a degree
- a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.

### Application procedure

Application may be obtained from the Office of Loans and Scholarships between January 1 and May 1 preceding the academic year award is to be used. Completed application and all required documents must be received no later than **May 15**. A student must reapply for each academic year.

## Scholarships for Graduate Students Only

### The Bishop James C. Baker Award

These awards are for campus ministers in higher education doing advanced studies who have had at least three years of professional experience in campus ministry.

### ✓ Eligibility requirements

Applicant must:

- have a master of divinity degree and expect to remain in campus ministry
- be an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **three** years prior to application
- be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.

### Application procedure

Application may be obtained from the Office of Loans and Scholarships between December 15 and January 15 preceding the academic year award is to be used. Completed application and all required supporting documents must be received no later than **February 1**. A student must reapply each academic year.

## The Rosalie Bentzinger Scholarship

This scholarship is designed to recognize a United Methodist student pursuing a Ph.D. degree in Christian education in a graduate theological institution. One (1) \$5,000 scholarship will be awarded annually.

### ✓ Eligibility requirements

Applicant must:

- be an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **three** years
- be a member in good standing as a deacon in full connection, diaconal minister, or deaconess
- be accepted for doctoral study in a University Senate approved school of theology (preference given to applicants enrolled in a United Methodist institution)
- be enrolled full time
- be able to document financial need
- have a B+ academic average

### Application procedure

Application may be obtained from the Office of Loans and Scholarships between December 1 and January 15 preceding the academic year award is to be used.

\*Members of other Methodist denominations are not eligible.

Completed application, transcript of any previous graduate work accomplished, and three letters of reference (one of which must be from applicant's academic adviser) must be received no later than **February 1**.

## Dempster Graduate Fellowships

Awards are made annually to graduate students selected for their intellectual competence, academic achievement, promise of usefulness in teaching careers, personal qualities, clarity of purpose, and commitment to Christian ministry and the preparation of pastoral leadership for the church. The committee on awards will give due regard to the encouragement of students preparing to teach in United Methodist institutions in fields in which there is a need for teachers.

### ✓ Eligibility requirements

Applicant must:

- be a member of The United Methodist Church\* who plans to teach in seminaries, or to teach religion and related subjects in universities or colleges
- have received the M.Div. degree or its equivalent from one of the United Methodist seminaries, or be in a Ph.D. program or its equivalent at one of these schools at the time of application

### Application procedure

Application may be obtained from the Section of Elders and Local Pastors, Division of Ordained Ministry, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Completed application and all supporting documents must be received no later than **February 1**.

## The Esther Edwards Graduate Scholarship

One (1) \$5,000 scholarship will be awarded annually. The recipient cannot reapply. First preference will be given to students who are employed by a United Methodist college, university, or school.

### ✓ Eligibility requirements

Applicant must be:

- a female graduate student pursuing an executive management career in higher education administration with a United Methodist school, college, or university
- an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for a least **one** year prior to application.

### Application procedure

Application may be obtained from the Office of Loans and Scholarships between December 1 and February 15 preceding the academic year award is to be used. Completed application and all required supporting documents must be received no later than **March 1**.

## The Georgia Harkness Scholarship

This scholarship is for women over 35 who are preparing to be an ordained elder in The United Methodist Church.

### ✓ Eligibility requirements

Applicant must be:

- a woman over 35 preparing to be an ordained elder in The United Methodist Church
- working toward basic seminary degree
- enrolled in University Senate approved school of theology
- an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **one** year prior to application
- a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.

### Application procedure

Information and an application may be obtained from any United Methodist seminary or the Section of Elders and Local Pastors, Division of Ordained Ministry, Georgia Harkness Scholarship, P.O. Box 340007, Nashville, TN 37203-0007. Deadline for submitting completed application to the Division of Ordained Ministry is **March 1**.

## The Native American Seminary Award

The purpose of this award is to provide Native American students pursuing candidacy in The United Methodist Church incentive to serve a Native American congregation or ministry/fellowship recognized by an annual conference of The United Methodist Church.

Criteria and procedures may be obtained from the Office of Loans and Scholarships between January 1 and April 15 preceding the academic year the award is to be used. Completed application and all required supporting documents must be received no later than **May 1**.

## The John Q. Schisler Award

The John Q. Schisler Graduate Awards are designed to assist a number of outstanding graduate students who have chosen a career as a professional Christian educator in the local church. The Schisler Graduate awards are for students pursuing ministry in Christian education, preparing to become a lay professional, ordained deacon in full connection, or diaconal minister. This graduate award is not for students planning to be an ordained elder. Applicants must be enrolled at a University Senate approved theological seminary.

### ✓ Eligibility requirements

Applicant must:

- have chosen a career as a professional Christian educator in the local church
- have been a full, active member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **three** years prior to application
- be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.

### **Application procedure**

Application may be obtained from the Office of Loans and Scholarships between December 15 and January 15 preceding the academic year the award is to be used. Completed application and all required supporting documents must be received no later than **February 1**.

### **The Reverend Charles W. Tadlock Scholarship**

This scholarship, derived from a will, is for persons from the Missouri East and West Annual Conferences and others preparing for parish ministry as an ordained elder.

#### **Eligibility requirements**

Applicant must:

- be a certified candidate for ministry as an ordained elder by an annual conference of The United Methodist Church\*
- have completed the first year toward the master of divinity degree
- be enrolled in a University Senate approved school of theology
- be an active, full member of The United Methodist Church for at least **one** year prior to application
- be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.

### **Application procedure**

Application may be obtained from the Office of Loans and Scholarships between December 15 and May 1 preceding the academic year the award is to be used. Completed application and all required supporting documents must be received no later than **May 15**.

### **Women of Color Scholars Program**

The goals of the Women Color Scholars Program are: to remedy the lack of women of color on faculties at United Methodist seminaries; to increase the number of women of color who teach, lecture, write, and research at the Ph.D. level in all seminaries; and to heighten churchwide awareness of the need for women of color in theological education.

#### **Eligibility requirements**

Applicant must:

- be born of African, African-American, Asian, Hispanic, Native American/Alaskan Indian, or Pacific Islander parentage (at least one parent)
- be an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **three** years prior to application
- have received a master of divinity degree
- be enrolled full time or have been accepted in a degree program by the time of the interviews (to be held in the spring of each year)

### **Application procedure**

Application, guidelines, and brochures may be obtained

from the Office of Loans and Scholarships. Deadline for this program is **February 1**.

## **Special Scholarship Programs From Other United Methodist Agencies and/or Affiliated Organizations**

### **Crusade Scholarship**

Crusade funds are for academic programs on the graduate level. These awards are funded by the World Communion Offering received in churches on the first Sunday in October. Candidates shall be all women and men who show promise of providing leadership for the church and society.

#### **Eligibility requirements**

Applicant must be:

- a graduate ethnic student
- enrolled in full-time graduate study
- an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **one** year prior to application

### **Application procedure**

Information and an application may be obtained from the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries, Mission Personnel Resources Program Department, Crusade Scholarship Desk, Room 1470, 475 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10115. Deadline for submitting completed application to the General Board of Global Ministries is **February 1**.

### **Double Your Dollars For Scholars Award**

The United Methodist Higher Education Foundation (UMHEF) will provide a \$1,000 matching scholarship on a first-come, first-served basis. The sponsoring church must remit a check payable to UMHEF for \$1,000 with the completed application form. Candidates must be enrolled or enrolling as a **full-time** student in a UM-related college, university, or seminary, and be an active member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **one** year. Upon verification of enrollment, UMHEF will transfer \$2,000 to the institution. Only one application per church or student will be accepted. All applications and checks received after the program has closed out will be returned to the sponsoring churches.

Applications may be obtained between December 1 – February 1 from United Methodist Higher Education Foundation, P.O. Box 340005, Nashville, TN 37203-0005. Website: [www.umhgef.org](http://www.umhgef.org)

### **The United Methodist Foundation Merit Scholars Program**

The United Methodist Foundation Merit Scholars

\*Members of other Methodist denominations are not eligible.

Program provides a \$1,000 scholarship for a freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior (4-year colleges and college preparatory schools) and for a freshman and sophomore (2-year colleges) at **each** of the United Methodist-related schools, colleges, and universities. Recipients are selected by the participating institutions.

### ✓ **Eligibility requirements**

Applicant must be:

- an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **one** year prior to application
- a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.
- enrolled as a full-time student in a United Methodist-related school
- have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher

### **Application procedure**

Application can be obtained from your United Methodist institution. Nominations from schools must be received in the Scholarship Department of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry by **September 1**. Contact your school financial aid office or school representative for additional information.

## The United Methodist Foundation Seminary Program

The United Methodist Foundation Merit Scholars Program was created to foster value-centered education in a Christian context in United Methodist-related educational institutions through scholarship assistance to United Methodist students.

One (1) \$3,000 scholarship for a first year student, a second year student, and a final year student is provided to each United Methodist seminary and professional school.

### ✓ **Eligibility requirements**

Applicant must be:

- an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **one** year prior to application
- a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.
- enrolled as a full-time student in a United Methodist-related seminary or professional school

### **Application procedure**

Application can be obtained from your United Methodist institution. Nominations from seminaries and schools must be received in the Scholarship Department of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry by **September 1**. Contact your school financial aid office or school representative for additional information.

## The United Methodist Allocation to United Methodist Colleges and Universities

These scholarships are available to undergraduate students at United Methodist-related colleges and universities.

The award must be applied to tuition and fees. Renewal policy is determined by each college/university.

### ✓ **Eligibility requirements**

Applicant must be:

- an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **one** year prior to application
- a full-time degree candidate in a United Methodist-related college/university
- a student with a grade average of B or better during the year prior to the award
- able to establish financial need according to the guidelines of the college involved
- must be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S., or a member of one of the Central Conferences of The United Methodist Church

### **Application procedure**

Contact the United Methodist scholarship representative, the director of financial aid, at the United Methodist school of your choice and ask for application information.

The school scholarship committee will review forms and make recommendations to the Office of Loans and Scholarships, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, The United Methodist Church. Payments are made directly to the school.

## The United Methodist Seminary Award

These awards are for seminary students preparing for the pastoral ministry as an ordained elder. Two (2) students who have successfully completed their first year of seminary and one (1) first-career student are recommended by each United Methodist seminary.

### ✓ **Eligibility requirements**

Applicant must be:

- a graduate student who has chosen pastoral ministry as an ordained elder
- enrolled in a United Methodist seminary approved by the University Senate
- a second or third-year student or first-career student
- an active, full member of The United Methodist Church\* for at least **three** years prior to application
- a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.

### **Application procedure**

Contact the director of financial aid at your United Methodist seminary for application information. Nominations from seminaries must be received in the Scholarship Department of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry by September 1.

## GBHEM Scholarship Deadlines

### February 1

Bishop James C. Baker  
Rosalie Bentzinger  
Allan Jerome Burry  
John Q. Schisler  
Women of Color  
Dempster

### March 1

E. Craig Brandenburg  
Esther Edwards  
Georgia Harkness

### April 1

HANA

### May 1

Ethnic Minority  
Gift of Hope  
Native American Seminary  
Helen and Allen Brown  
Bishop Joseph Bethea

### May 15

Edith M. Allen  
Ernest I. and Eurice Miller Bass  
Priscilla R. Morton  
Charles W. Tadlock

## Other United Methodist Agencies and/or Affiliated Organizations

For additional scholarship information, contact:

### United Methodist Communications

P.O. Box 320  
810 Twelfth Avenue, South  
Nashville, TN 37202-0320

### Commission on Religion and Race

110 Maryland Avenue, NE  
Washington, DC 20002-5680

### Commission on Church and Society

100 Maryland Avenue, NE  
Washington, DC 20002-5664

### United Methodist Publishing House

P.O. Box 801  
201 Eighth Avenue, South  
Nashville, TN 37202

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## The United Methodist Student Loan Program

The United Methodist Student Loan Fund has the distinction of being one of the oldest student loan programs in the world. Since **1868**, Methodists have provided financial assistance to their members. Supported through wills, annuities, and the United Methodist Student Day Offering, loan programs administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry have enabled laity and clergy alike to fulfill their vocational dreams regardless of race or gender. Funds received on United Methodist Student Day for the UM Student Loan Fund are invested, loaned, and repaid over and over again.

As a recipient and supporter of the fund, you become an active participant in helping the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry continue preparing new generations of Christian leaders.

### Who may borrow?

An applicant must be:

- an active, full member of a United Methodist Church\* for at least **one** year prior to application
- a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.

- admitted to a degree program in an accredited college/university OR a degree candidate attending a professional or graduate school accredited by its respective professional accrediting agency
- maintaining at least a C average (or equivalent)  
Loans are available for overseas study for a student enrolled and taking work that will apply to her/his degree in a college in the U.S.

A student must be making satisfactory progress as defined by the school. A loan from this fund can be used to replace the student's expected family contribution (EFC).

Loans are **NOT** made to students on academic or disciplinary probation. **Loans are not approved if any member of the applicant's immediate family has a delinquent loan account with the United Methodist Loan Fund.**

**Prior to the loan being finalized, the Loan Department will contact the student and cosigner's local credit bureau to verify current financial obligations. Applicants without established credit will not be penalized.**

***NO EXCEPTIONS ARE MADE TO THESE REQUIREMENTS.***

\*Members of other Methodist denominations are not eligible.

## How much may a student borrow?

Loans are made per calendar year (January 1 through December 31) at **six (6%) percent** interest.

**Maximum annual amount for full-time students is \$2,500.**

Students taking at least one-half the required number of hours for full-time status may borrow up to one-half the amount available to full-time students.

Classes must have started for the term the student is requesting the loan before the loan check can be disbursed. An applicant may receive tentative approval for a loan prior to the beginning of the school term, if application papers are in the Nashville office **at least three weeks** before the term begins.

A student is eligible for no more than the maximum amount each calendar year. No more than \$15,000 may be borrowed during a student's entire educational program.

## How does a student obtain an application?

Application papers are available from the following sources:

- United Methodist schools — Office of Financial Aid\*\*
- Non-United Methodist schools — UM Campus Minister\*\*
- GBHEM Web site: [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org) — Click on the Loans and Scholarships button for Loan Request Form.

\*\*If you have problems locating the UM representative on your campus, contact **General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, The United Methodist Church, Office of Loans and Scholarships, P.O. Box 340007, Nashville, TN 37203-0007, telephone 615-340-7346 or e-mail: [umloans@gbhem.org](mailto:umloans@gbhem.org).**

**All applications are subject to the approval of the GBHEM's Office of Loans and Scholarships.**

## What are the deadlines?

Applications are reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. **When funds are available, deadlines may be waived.**

TERM	DEADLINES
winter/spring	March 15
summer	July 15
fall	November 1

An applicant may receive tentative approval for a loan prior to the beginning of the school term, if the application papers are in the Nashville office **at least 3 weeks before the term begins**. The student will be notified of any problems related to their application.

## What are the legal obligations?

**A promissory note signed by the student/borrower and a cosigner legally binds them to the repayment terms specified in the note. NO EXCEPTION IS EVER MADE TO THE REQUIREMENT FOR A COSIGNER.** The borrower and the cosigner bear equal responsibility for the loan. The loan is forgiven if the borrower dies before the loan is paid in full.

Interest accrues on the principal loan balance from the date the loan check is disbursed and continues until the loan is paid in full.

The signature of a cosigner is required on the promissory note, the cosigner's pledge, and the notice to cosigner form. **The cosigner must sign all of these forms in the presence of a Notary Public.**

The cosigner must be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S., of legal age, and financially able to underwrite the loan. The following persons are **NOT ACCEPTABLE** as cosigner: spouse of the student/applicant, a person who is also attending school, a person who has an open account with the UM Loan Fund, the pastor of the student (unless she/he is the parent).

The borrower may repay all or any part of the principal plus accrued interest at any time without penalty.

United Methodist loans cannot be consolidated with any other loan program.

## What about repayment of loan?

Repayment will begin six (6) months after you graduate or withdraw from school. All borrowers are required to recertify their school attendance annually. All borrowers will be sent an Exit Letter at the end of each academic year to notify them of the beginning of their six-month grace period. Graduating students will be expected to make their first payment at the end of this six month grace period. Students who will continue their education in the next academic year must recertify their enrollment once they return to school. If this certification is received prior to the end of their six-month grace period they will be placed back in the student-deferred status and will not be expected to start repayment. Your account will become delinquent if you do not respond to your monthly statement. Other important information regarding repayment:

1. **Month of graduation** you will receive an Exit Letter and an Estimated Schedule of Payments. If you have not graduated when you receive this letter, contact the Loan Department immediately.
2. **Three months after graduation** you will receive a Statement of Grace listing the monthly payment amount, date first payment is due, total amount borrowed (principal + interest), and other information about your loan account.
3. **Five months after graduation** you will receive a Statement of Account — a reminder that your first statement will be mailed the following month.

4. **First payments will be applied** to the interest balance (interest accrued from date of each loan disbursement).
5. **Once interest is current**, the payment amount will be applied to both principal and the interest accrued for that month.
6. **The remainder of a payment in excess of interest and principal due** will be applied to your principal balance.
7. **Paying an amount in excess of your regular monthly payment will not be considered as an advance payment unless you negotiate** this arrangement with the collections department before your payment is mailed.
8. **Your cosigner will be notified** if your account is three months (90 days) past due or if your payments have been late for three (3) consecutive months.
9. **Final payment will be due** no later than 120 months from date the first payment is due.

### What is monthly payment amount?

A monthly payment amount will be calculated at the time your account goes into repayment. **The monthly payment amount will be based on the total amount of your UM loans plus the interest balance.** The sample payment amounts listed are approximate.

Amount Borrowed	Minimum Payment Amount	Years In Repayment
\$10,000	\$130	10
2,500	50	5 <sup>†</sup>

<sup>†</sup> Some loan amounts will pay out in less than the 10 year maximum.

### How about deferments?

To defer repayment on your UM loan, **you must get approval in writing from the Office of Loans and**

**Scholarships.** Your UM loans may be deferred under the following conditions:

#### 1. Student Deferment

If you return to school as a full-time or half-time student, you should contact the Collections Department for a student deferment form as soon as the registrar confirms your enrollment status. For your deferment to be approved, the form must be completed by the registrar and returned to this office.

#### 2. Hardship Deferment

If you are temporarily experiencing a hardship, you may request a deferment. To negotiate the deferment of your payments, contact the Collections Department regarding your situation.

#### 3. Disability Deferment

To be granted a disability deferment, you must provide proof of your disability, i.e., a letter from your physician, to the Collections Department.

### Is a loan ever cancelled?

The only condition for cancellation of a UM student loan is death of the borrower. The cosigner is not liable if the borrower dies before the loan is repaid.

### Questions?

Contact the Loan Department  
 General Board of Higher Education & Ministry  
 Office of Loans and Scholarships  
 P.O. Box 340007  
 Nashville, TN 37203-0007  
 Telephone 615-340-7346  
 Fax 615-340-7367  
 E-mail [umloans@gbhem.org](mailto:umloans@gbhem.org)  
 Web site [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org)



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 General Board of Higher Education and Ministry  
 The United Methodist Church  
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 Loan Department 615-340-7346  
 Scholarship Department 615-340-7344