Scholarship Policy September 2024

INTRODUCTION

Part of the mission of First Baptist Church is to prepare leaders for the marketplace and the church, leaders with thoroughly Christian minds; men and women of recognized excellence in their fields who will be heard by their peers with respect.

For most students, one of the major concerns in attending a Bible College or Seminary is that of finances. First Baptist Church makes a determined effort to encourage Bible College/Seminary students who qualify for admission to a religious degree or certificate program with some financial support to engage in theological education and have demonstrated financial need.

All students are expected to take what responsibility they can for the financial requirements of their chosen program.

STUDENT BURSARY / CAMPERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Bursary Committee will be composed of two Elders and one pastor, preferably the pastor of student ministries. The pastor will chair the committee. The committee will meet to evaluate bursary applications following the June and November application deadlines and will notify the applicants regarding their decision only after all the applications for that intake have been reviewed. The cheque signing authority for the bursary award will be held by the chair of the Board of Elders and by the church treasurer.

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID (BURSARIES)

If you are eligible for the following student aid, please contact any of the pastors or Elders.

There are two possible funds available:

- 1. Student Biblical Studies Grant (*I changed the term to signal changes*)— (Budgeted and Designated) This is available through an application process (Financial Aid Application) and specific requirements met, at \$500 per semester.
- 2. Memorial Seminary Scholarship (Designated) \$1500 only 1 per year. This is available through an application process (Financial Aid Application) and specific requirements met.

Biblical Study Grant: This gift is given to encourage FBC Students to take Biblical Studies to build a solid foundation in their lives as they prepare for their future. They simply need to provide the name of the institution, doctrinal statement of the school and program of studies they are taking. It is a gift from the Church to students in Biblical Studies. (ie. When their predominant studies are Biblical / Theological). The amount given is \$500 per semester.

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Memorial Seminary Scholarship - This is available once a year for a Seminary student who is preparing for ministry. The scholarship is \$1500 and an application needs to be submitted. (Use the Financial Aid Application.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR RECEIPT OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

Only people with a demonstrated involvement in the life of First Baptist Church will qualify for financial aid.

Upon institutional verification of full time status, the application for financial aid will be continued to be processed by the local church. It is suggested that this information be made available to the Pastors and Elders as soon as possible at the commencement of the school year. The applicant is expected to make this information available.

Students will furnish the pastors and Elders with a copy of their chosen school's statement of faith prior to the distribution of financial aid being awarded.

Students will be in full-time attendance.

Students will apply for the grant at the time of enrolment. There will be two intakes of applications: September 30 will be the deadline for applications for funds to be applied to September enrolment; January 31 will be deadline for applications for funds to be applied to January enrolment.

It is expected that applicants will be actively involved in a local church ministry or school-based ministry while attending school. Applications for financial assistance following the first year will require a letter of reference indicating active participation in ministry and a letter of reference from a professor indicating academic performance that merits consideration for financial support.

Distribution of financial aid funds will be made directly to the student.