



Seminarian Debt Relief Fund Eligibility

For new leaders who have graduated from a Lutheran seminary and are serving in the Northeastern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA. This would include musicians and youth workers with advanced degrees as well as rostered leaders.

This fund (\$20,000 as of February 2015) is to be utilized to help individuals who have amassed a large debt at seminary and who receive a call or who are serving in the synod. Individuals may apply yearly up to four years.

Eligibility

- (1) Individuals who are serving in a congregation or specialized call in the Northeastern Minnesota Synod and who are no more than six years past their graduation date, including pastors, associates in ministry, deaconesses, diaconal ministers, youth workers, and musicians with advanced degrees from a Lutheran seminary.
- (2) Individuals may apply annually for up to four years.
- (3) Individuals must be serving in the synod when receiving the funds.
- (4) Debt must be incurred while in seminary.
- (5) The synod council of the Northeastern Minnesota Synod will make the determination of allocations at the September council meeting.
- (6) Application deadline is August 1, 2016. Applications are available from the synod office or online at www.nemnsynod.org

Allocation

- (1) Recipients will be anonymous, but the number of individuals receiving funds will be published each year.
- (2) Fifty percent (50%) of the available funds will be allocated equally amongst the number of applicants in a given year.
- (3) Funds will be dispersed directly to the financial institution to which the debt is owed.