

R.E.P.L.

A partner in "training Christ's followers in skilled servant work."

Ephesians 4:12 (The Message)

**RACIAL ETHNIC PASTORAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
(REPL)**

**Synod of Southern California and Hawaii
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY (1982-2017)

2017 APPLICATION GUIDELINES

For the
SYNOD'S RACIAL ETHNIC
THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

PURPOSE:

- To encourage racial ethnic Presbyterians within the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii to prepare for ministry vocations that will serve the Synod and the whole Church. We seek to help prepare racial ethnic leadership to serve the current diverse ministry needs of the Church.
- To assist the Synod and its presbyteries to provide needed spiritual and financial support for racial ethnic persons enrolled with the presbytery as an inquirer / candidate for Teaching Elder (*Minister of the Word and Sacrament*), or with the presbytery and / or session for other professional ministry vocations.
- **Priority for scholarships shall be given to persons pursuing the M.Div. degree or its equivalent, or other presbytery approved programs, in preparation for meeting the requirements for various ministry vocations including parish ministry (Pastor, Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) or Certified Christian Educator (CCE).**

QUALIFICATIONS:

- The applicant must be a member of a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregation or in relationship with a presbytery within the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii.
- The applicant must be under care of his/her church's Session or enrolled with his/her Presbytery as an inquirer or candidate for Teaching Elder (*Minister of the Word and Sacrament*), Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE), Certified Christian Educator, a bi-vocational minister involved in emerging new worship communities, or a minister transferring from another denomination.
Note: Applicants who are not enrolled with their presbytery will be assisted by the REPL Committee in beginning the process as a requirement for continued eligibility.
- The applicant shall be a member of a racial ethnic group, and willing to serve in a racial ethnic or multi-cultural ministry within the PC (U.S.A.).

- The applicant should be enrolled full-time or part-time in a PC(U.S.A.) related seminary or in a seminary or program approved by his/her presbytery.
- The applicant shall be pursuing a M.Div. degree, its equivalent, or other approved programs required by the presbytery for a particular area of ministry.
- The applicant shall demonstrate his/her financial need for scholarship assistance. Ordinarily, expenses must exceed income.
- The applicant / recipient shall maintain “satisfactory” grades in accordance with the criteria set by the appropriate committee of his/her presbytery.

(Note: Racial-Ethnic persons with a M.Div. degree or its equivalent who are from other denominations in correspondence with the PC(U.S.A.), and are seeking to meet Presbytery’s requirements for ordination or transfer may also be considered for scholarship funds if they meet the other requirements of the program.)

THE PROCESS

- The Synod Racial Ethnic Pastoral Leadership Committee (REPL) has the administrative and programmatic responsibility for the scholarship program.
- **Application shall include the following:**
 1. **The completed Application Form**, including complete financial information, detailed response to the required narrative questions, and a signature from the appropriate presbytery or session representative. – **Note: The Application Form is available at the Synod Office, or from the Synod Website, the Presbytery or via e-mail (ntucker@synod.org)**
 2. **Recommendation by the appropriate presbytery committee or session.** See page 4 of the Application Form.
 3. **A current transcript is required, if applicable.** A copy of the GPA provided by the Registrar’s Office will be accepted if a transcript cannot be obtained.
 4. Application Forms and other related documents must be typed (preferred) or written legibly with a pen. **Note: The application can be completed online and e-mailed to the Coordinator’s email shown below.**

**THE DEADLINES FOR THE APPLICATION ARE:
(Spring) April 30th, 2017 and (Fall) October 15, 2017**

Communications in regard to the scholarship program may be directed to:

**Racial Ethnic Pastoral Leadership Committee (REPL)
Synod of Southern California and Hawaii
14335 Roscoe Blvd., Panorama City, CA 91402
Attention: Rev. Narcissis Tucker Bishop, Coordinator
ntucker@synod.org
Phone 213.483.3840 x 112
<http://www.synod.org/#repl>**