

**REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY – ATLANTA
FINANCIAL AID GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION**

FINANCING YOUR SEMINARY EDUCATION

Every person called by God into Christian Ministry faces the need for preparation and the daunting challenge of how to fund that preparation. *How am I going to be able to pay for seminary?* Good question. Financial uncertainty is often the greatest discouragement for anyone preparing to follow the call of God into ministry. It doesn't have to be. Learning to trust in God's timing and provision is a valuable part of your preparation.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Most people as they explored and nurtured their gifts for ministry have developed a grateful and supportive network. Now is the time to call on that network for assistance. Individuals can make donations to RTS to be credited to your account. A student's church may contribute to their support as well, and this money has the possibility of being matched by an RTS scholarship (see the details on the Church Partnership Program below). Para-church ministries have also frequently assisted involved students as they received their training.

With a non-traditional student body, most RTS Atlanta students have at least part-time employment during their studies. Not only can this income provide for a student's expenses but some employers offer tuition benefits. In addition, many are employed in churches or other ministries that also provide invaluable ministry experience during a student's studies. If you are in need of employment please check out the Vocational Services page on the RTS website.

WHAT RTS ATLANTA CAN DO

RTS is well regarded for its commitment to biblical training for ministry. And because of this high regard many individuals, foundations, and churches have given generously to RTS Atlanta, making a number of financial partnerships possible.

There are three types of partnership programs that RTS Atlanta offers. The first is the Church Partnership Program mentioned above. The second is a Campus Ministry Partnership involving a number of recognized campus ministries. The third is partnership with Mission to the World (MTW), the sending agency of the Presbyterian Church in America. These three partnership programs are exclusive of each other. A student may do one of the programs, not a combination.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of Applicant: _____ Expected Date of Graduation: _____

I am a New student: Expected Date to Begin Studies at RTS: _____

Returning student: Date Studies Began at RTS: _____

I plan to enroll per year for 3-6 6-24 24 or more hours Degree Program: _____

Present Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Age: _____

Marital Status: S M D W No./age of children: _____

College Attended: _____ Degree: _____ GPA: _____

Home Church: _____ Denomination: _____

Pastor's Name: _____

EMPLOYMENT/SUPPORT-RAISING INFORMATION

1. Have you requested support from your home church? Yes No

If yes, what were the results of your request? If no, please explain: _____

Please explain what other efforts you are making to raise your own support while in seminary (e.g. requesting denominational assistance, building a personal support network): _____

2. During the next academic year while at RTS, will you be or do you intend to be employed in some capacity? Yes No

3. If you are married with no children, is your spouse:

Employed?

Currently looking for work?

Not employed and not currently seeking employment. Please explain: _____

MONTHLY INCOME DURING SEMINARY

(not including any RTS grants or work study)

Aid from Parents _____

Aid from Spouse's Parents _____

Student's Salary and Wages _____

Spouse's Salary and Wages _____

Aid from Church/Denomination _____

Aid from Friends _____

Loans _____

Other _____

TOTAL MONTHLY INCOME _____

FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND INCOME

(personal resources anticipated at beginning of school)

Cash and Savings _____

Checking Account _____

Home Equity _____

Other Real Estate and Investments _____

Stocks, Bonds, and CD's _____

Trust Funds (applicant is beneficiary) _____

IRA/Keogh/Vested Portion of Pension _____

TOTAL PERSONAL RESOURCES _____

PRESENT INDEBTEDNESS

LOANS

BALANCE

MONTHLY PAYMENT

Educational _____

Credit Cards _____

Car _____

Personal _____

Other: _____

TOTAL: _____

SEMINARY PARTNERSHIP REQUESTED

Please indicate the partnership that applies to you.

- Campus Ministry Partnership Rates:** Please include a letter of recommendation from your supervisor or campus minister.
 - Campus Crusade for Christ staff
 - Campus Outreach
 - InterVarsity staff
 - Reformed University Fellowship
 - Young Life staff
 - Other Campus Ministry

- Church Partnership Program:** Please include a letter from the supporting church, signed by an authorized representative of the church, specifying the amount of support as well as the date(s) the church will send the funds to RTS. The church should also indicate that they have been supplied with a copy of the Financial Aid FAQ's listed on the next page. The church should send the funds at least three weeks before each semester so the funds will be on your account at registration.

- MTW Partnership Program:** This program extends to long-term missionaries, some short-term missionaries, and MTW staff. Please contact Matt Koehn, Director of Admissions, at admissions.atlanta@rts.edu for information concerning the conditions and documentation for this scholarship program.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

I certify the accuracy of all the information in this application. Since financial aid awards are made on the basis of each student's financial situation, I agree to keep information about any financial aid awarded to me strictly confidential

(Signature)

(Date)

OFFICE USE BELOW THIS LINE

Reviewed by:

Decision and Date:

Financial Aid Award:

Student Notification:

PowerCAMPUS:

FINANCIAL AID FAQ's

Will you send my church or ministry an invoice? RTS sends out statements on the 7th of the month to students with a balance. These are always mailed only to the student since it is the student's responsibility to insure that their balance is paid. Students may also access their account information 24/7 on IQ Web. It is entirely the responsibility of the student to arrange for their church to send in their support.

How much of the funds from my church will be matched by RTS in the Church Partnership Program? RTS will match dollar for dollar the funds from a church in this program up to one-third of a student's tuition. So for instance, if a student incurred \$3000 in tuition and their church sent in \$1000, then RTS will match with a \$1000 scholarship. If a church were to send in \$1500, then RTS would still match with \$1000, so that the student would then only be responsible for \$500.

How is the Church Partnership scholarship applied? The Church Partnership scholarship is applied automatically at a rate of one-third every time tuition is charged.

How are Church checks and tuition matched? This is done on the basis of the RTS fiscal year that runs from June until May. At the end of each month of May a Church Partnership audit is conducted. If a student has not had sufficient church checks arrive to match the amount of Church Partnership scholarship given, then the difference in scholarship is reversed.

When should my church send a check into RTS? So that the student does not incur any finance charges the church should plan to send in a check by the beginning of each term a student will be enrolled. A church is also free to send in one annual check before the beginning of the first term a student will be enrolled for that fiscal year.

How will RTS know that a check is for me? The church should always indicate either in the memo line or stub exactly which student the funds are designated for. Including the student's RTS ID number further assists RTS in making sure the funds help the person they are intended for.

Do I need to be on staff with Campus Crusade for Christ to receive that partnership? Yes, our partner Campus Crusade for Christ has asked that we reserve their partnership program for only those currently serving as staff. They consider this partnership to be one the benefits of serving with their ministry.

Do I need to be on staff, or have served on staff, with the other campus ministries in order to receive their partnerships? Not necessarily, these other partnerships are also open to those who were involved as students but never in a staff relationship with the campus ministry.

How are the campus ministry and MTW scholarships applied? They are applied automatically every time a student is charged tuition.