

REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION

FOR THE 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read over this packet carefully, particularly the "Guidelines For Financial Aid" section. Fill in the financial information with your best estimate of a) your current financial situation if you are a returning student, or b) your projected financial situation at the beginning of your entering term if you are a new student.
2. Return this completed form to the Admissions office. Be sure to sign the form and make a copy of this completed form for your records before submitting it.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Returning Students: by March 1. Students will be notified of award decisions by email by April 1.
(Late Applications will be reviewed after July 1 if funds remain.)

New Students: Entering Summer or Fall Term (for first review) – by March 1.
Entering Summer or Fall Term (for second review) – by May 1.
Entering Fall Term (for third review) - by July 1.
Entering Winter or Spring Term - by December 1.

Financial aid forms will not be processed until applicants are admitted to a degree program.

GUIDELINES FOR FINANCIAL AID

1. In a typical year, RTS raises funds from churches, foundations, and individuals to pay for approximately 65% of the cost of educating each student. Tuition accounts for about 35% of the cost. In addition to the 65% provided, the Seminary offers three different types of financial assistance (apart from International Student Grants). An eligible student may receive Grants or participate in a Partnership (but not both) in addition to On-Campus Work.
 - a. **Grants** – Full-time students who demonstrate financial need are eligible for Grants. Students who qualify receive a credit toward tuition at registration. Grants are applied directly to the student's account and are given as a percentage of tuition.
 - b. **Partnerships** – RTS participates in several Partnerships that represent financial assistance for students. *Priority for Partnerships is based on full-time status and financial need.* Limited funds are set aside to meet each Partnership and those funds are awarded on a first-come first-served basis. Each student may only be awarded a maximum of one Partnership and must be approved for that Partnership by meeting the requirements detailed on page 4 of this application. Please contact the Admissions office for current financial details on each individual Partnership. *Partnerships are approved in lieu of Grants.*
 - c. **On-Campus Work** - On-Campus Work recipients are awarded opportunities for part-time employment, normally 10 hours per week at \$7.25 per hour. Earnings are paid monthly to students for hours worked. The continuation of On-Campus Work depends upon satisfactory performance of the assigned responsibility.
2. Financial aid is awarded for one academic year at a time (from June 1 to May 31). Reapplication for aid is necessary each year (see "Application Deadlines" above).
3. Financial aid recipients must be full-time students in order to receive Grants (see #1a above). Full-time is defined for:
resident students as enrollment in 12 hours or more in each semester (fall and spring); **MDIV students** on the 4-year track;
MFT students as enrollment in 10 hours or more in each of the fall and spring semesters; **MFT students** on the 3-year track;
MA students on a 2.5-year track; **resident students writing a thesis** as enrollment for one semester during the writing.
4. All students taking 12 or more hours in any given semester are required to maintain medical insurance coverage for themselves. Students may continue their own insurance coverage or enroll in the seminary's student plan. Proof of adequate insurance is required in order to complete registration for Fall and Spring. Full-time international (F-1 or non-resident) students who receive **any** form of financial aid or On-Campus Work from the seminary are additionally **required** to maintain insurance coverage for **any immediate family members living with them in the U.S. during the program of study.**
5. Grants are awarded only to students who are working, either on campus or off, to help pay for their seminary expenses. If the student's work terminates, his grant will automatically be canceled. Full-time students have priority for receiving summer On-Campus Work positions. On-Campus Work positions not filled by full-time students may be offered to part-time students on a per semester basis. On-Campus Work is contingent upon the availability of a job for which the student is qualified. The continuation of On-Campus Work depends upon satisfactory performance of assigned responsibilities.
6. Financial aid is not available to Doctor of Ministry candidates.
7. The Seminary expects each student to supply his financial obligations in the following ways:
 - a. Before enrolling, each student should raise adequate support from outside sources: his home church and denomination, people to whom he has ministered, friends and family, clubs and foundations, etc. This important part of preparation is easiest for a student to do **before** he enrolls. Contact the Admissions office if you need assistance with raising support.
 - b. The seminary generally expects students to use their savings and investments – though not all their home equity – toward their seminary expenses.
 - c. Spouses of students should consider getting a full or part-time job to assist with family finances. If jobs are available, spouses may be employed for up to 10 hours per week under the On-Campus Work program.

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: _____ Year of program during Fall 2012: 1st 2nd 3rd 4th

Next semester, I plan to enroll for 1-5 6-11 12 or more hours Degree Program: _____

Present Home Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____ Age: _____

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

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? (You may enclose a resume or a brief list of his/her job skills)

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 _____

MONTHLY EXPENSE BUDGET

This budget estimates normal living expenses averaged over a 12-month period. Itemize your best estimate of a) your current financial situation if you are a returning student, or b) your projected financial situation at the beginning of your entering term if you are a new student.

	Your Projected Exp.	Single	Couple	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	add'l. Child.
Tithe		100	230	190	201	216	+16/per
Tuition*		1233	1233	1233	1233	1233	
Books		95	95	95	93	93	
Rent**/Mort		245	490/650	540/650	650/695	695/+	
Food		183	340	440	540	640	+100/per
Utilit./Phone		80	190	230	250	270	+20/per
Health*** Insurance		76	244	339	435	531	+96/per
Life Insurance		11	30	35	40	45	+5/per
Auto Insurance		60	125	125	125	125	
Car Expenses		110	190	210	210	210	
Laundry		16	16	21	26	31	+ 5/per
Medical Bills		35	72	82	92	102	+10/per
Incidentals		65	90	110	130	150	+20/per
Debts		If you have any debts, please give details in the section below.					
Other		Please specify (e.g. car payment, clothing, renter's ins., taxes, travel):					
Total Expenses		2309	3345/3505	3650/3760	4025/4070	4341+	+272/per
Total Income		Use the estimated budget figures above to project your expenses. Use the estimates as a guide and record your projections in the blank column.					
Surplus/Deficit							

* Rate is the 12-month average for 35.33 hours (106 MDIV hours/3 years) + \$140 Student Activities Fees. MFT for 34.5 hours (69 hours/2 years) would be \$1204. MA for 33 hours (66/2 years) would be \$1152. Students taking fewer hours can adjust accordingly.

** Rates quoted are for RTS student housing. Several students each year end up living in a manse at a church where they are serving.

***Rates quoted are 11-12 RTS student policy rates and are subject to change. Couple/family rates assume non-student spouses 35 yrs. and younger and dependent children 19 yrs. and younger. Families with children are encouraged to pursue Medicaid in the place of insurance.

PRESENT INDEBTEDNESS

LOANS	BALANCE	MONTHLY PAYMENT
Educational	_____	_____
Credit Cards	_____	_____
Car	_____	_____
Personal	_____	_____
Other: _____	_____	_____
TOTAL:	_____	_____

GRANT REQUESTED

Please indicate the grant(s) for which you wish to be considered. You will only be awarded one type of grant.

- EPC Jumper Grant:** If you have applied for the Jumper Grant through the Development office on a separate application, mark here.
- Basic Tuition Grant**
- Deacon's Grant:** Please attach an explanation of your special circumstances that are imposing financial hardship.
- Presidential Grant:** Please attach a resume of ministry experience and academic/professional achievements.
- Spouse Grant:** If a husband and wife attend simultaneously, the student with fewer hours is eligible for a Spouse Grant. Please indicate the number of hours to be taken by the spouse taking fewer hours in the 2012-2013 Academic Year.
Total Hours: _____ Is either spouse a student in the MFT program? Yes No
- Campus Minister's Grant:** Please include a letter of recommendation from your supervisor in campus ministry.
Through which campus ministry have you been employed? _____
How long were you employed? _____ Where did you serve? _____
- Minister's Family Grant**
What member of your family is an ordained minister of the Gospel? _____
In what denomination is that member ordained? _____
- International Students Grant:** Please include a letter from your sending church or denominational officers indicating their expectation of your return to a place of service upon graduation.
Of what country are you a citizen? _____ What is your visa status? _____
To what country and place of service are you preparing to return? _____
- African American Leadership Initiative Scholarship:** Awarded to those who demonstrate a heart for ministry in African American, multi-ethnic, or urban contexts and who *participate fully* in AALI events and offerings. Please attach a brief essay about your ministry experience and future desires for working in African American, multi-ethnic, or urban contexts.

SEMINARY PARTNERSHIP REQUESTED

Please indicate the partnership that applies to you. Remember that the Partnerships are exclusive and done in lieu of Grants.

- Campus Ministry Partnership Rates:** Please include a letter of recommendation from your supervisor or campus minister.
 Campus Crusade for Christ staff MTW (2 months overseas) MTW (11 months or more overseas)
 Reformed University Fellowship RUF Staff Young Life staff Campus Outreach
- 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 release the funds to RTS. The church should release the funds at least three weeks before each semester so the funds will be on your account at registration.

ON-CAMPUS WORK INFORMATION

- On-Campus Work** (9 mth. est.): 350 hrs.(10 hrs. per week) = \$2,537 175 hrs.(5 hrs. per week) = \$1,268
 F-1 Visa (International Students)

If you are applying for On-Campus Work, please choose among the following work preferences and number 1-5:

___ Admissions Counselor ___ Audio-Visual ___ Clothes Closet ___ Food Service ___ Mailroom
___ Assisting Internationals ___ Bookstore ___ Faculty Assistant ___ Library ___ MFT Clinic Desk

Please make additional comments or enclose a resume that would be helpful in making work assignments:

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. I also agree to maintain employment of at least ten hours per week as well as health insurance as stipulated. I understand that my lifestyle should reflect Christian piety as one preparing for Gospel ministry. Further, my beliefs should reflect historic Christian orthodoxy as guided by the Purpose Statement of RTS. Finally, I agree to inform the Scholarship Committee of any changes in my financial status during the year.

(Signature)

(Date)

RTS JACKSON SCHOLARSHIP PLACEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

RTS is able to provide financial aid because of donors who establish and/or donate to scholarship funds. The purpose of this questionnaire is to assist our Development office in matching you with a donor or scholarship if you are awarded financial aid from RTS. You will receive notification of the scholarship that made your financial aid possible during the 2012-2013 academic year (in late fall or early spring), and you will be asked to write a letter of appreciation to the donor(s) who provided your financial aid. In some cases, financial aid is not provided by a particular scholarship fund, but instead by the General Scholarship fund. If your financial aid is provided by the General Scholarship fund, you will not be asked to write a letter of appreciation.

Some of the scholarships require specific criteria to be met. The questions on the financial aid application and the additional questions below will help us to place you with the appropriate corresponding scholarship.

Full Name _____
 First Middle Last Nickname

Please check all that apply

	Descendant of Huguenots
	For male students—Wife is employed outside the home for 20 hrs. per week or less
	Not previously in ministry; regularly employed in a secular vocation before being called to ministry
	Member of Fourth Presbyterian Church, Bethesda, MD
	Member or former employee of First Presbyterian Church, Valdosta, GA
	Member of First Presbyterian Church, Macon, GA
	Member of Columbia Presbyterian Church, Columbia, MS
	Current missionary continuing studies
	Pursuing a ministry in international missions
	Attend First Presbyterian Church, Jackson, MS
	Originally from western Pennsylvania
	Originally from Clearfield County, Pennsylvania
	Originally from Williamsburg County, South Carolina