

Frequently Asked Questions – Doctor of Ministry

All other Doctoral Programs – See “Information for students enrolled in a Doctor of Educational Ministry, Doctor of Education, or Doctor of Philosophy degree program.”

I applied for and was awarded a grant but did not enroll for classes as planned. Am I considered a repeat or new applicant when I apply again?

If you applied for and were awarded a Keesee grant you are considered a repeat applicant, even if you did not accept the grant award.

I received a Keesee grant while enrolled in the Master’s program but I am planning to enroll in a Doctor of Ministry program and would like to apply for a Keesee grant. Do I apply as a new or repeater applicant?

You are considered a repeat applicant if you were previously awarded a Keesee grant, even if you are pursuing a new degree program.

When can I apply for a Keesee grant and what is the deadline to submit an application?

The Deadline date for submitting an application for the Doctor of Ministry program (DMin) is:

Summer/Fall and Winter/Spring Semester (Academic Year) **DUE MAY 1st**

*Application portal is open January 1st – May 1st**

Winter/Spring Semester (Spring Only) **DUE NOVEMBER 1st**

*Application portal is open August 1st – November 1st**

**If a deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, applications will be accepted the next business day (typically the following Monday).*

Am I required to submit a transcript with my application?

If you are already enrolled in the Doctor of Ministry program, you must attach a copy of your most recent grade transcript, even if you have had a break since you completed your last class. If you have not completed your first semester in the Doctor of Ministry program a transcript is not required.

Your unofficial copy of your most recent transcript must include the following:

- Your name
- School name
- Degree of Study
- Cumulative GPA

If grades are not reflected for any classes completed, you will need to provide an explanation as to why the grade is not reflected.

What factors are considered when determining approvals/denials/grant amounts?

We do not share the specific details of our review process; however, each application is reviewed thoroughly by our Trustees, with decisions made based upon the information provided in the application and the resources available for educational grants.

Why was my application denied this year?

Decisions are made at the discretion of the Board of Trustees. Final decisions do not rest on a single factor, rather they are based on the strength of the entire application. While the Board of Trustees recognizes applicants may not know exactly where in Baptist ministry they may serve, if approved, funding may only continue to applicants demonstrating a clear understanding of their ministry plans nearing the end of their seminary/divinity school journey. All denials are reviewed by the Board of Trustees and are not made at the discretion of one Trustee. Decisions to deny applications are not made lightly. We do not provide specific details regarding the reason an application is denied.

I moved to an eligible state to attend classes and changed my residency to an eligible state, am I eligible for a Keesee grant?

You must be a resident of an eligible state for a minimum of twelve months immediately prior to entering any educational institution (including online courses). If you moved from an ineligible state to an eligible state and did not wait twelve months before starting classes, you are not eligible. For example, in June you moved from North Dakota to North Carolina to start classes at an eligible school in August of the same year. You are not eligible to apply for a Keesee grant because you were not a resident of an eligible state (North Carolina) for twelve months before enrolling in a Keesee beneficiary school.

Must I submit a new application each year?

Yes, if you applied for an academic year application you must reapply the next academic year when the application portal opens on January 1st. If you applied for a winter/spring-only grant and want to be considered for a grant for the following academic year, you must reapply when the application portal opens on January 1st.

How many Keesee grant awards may I receive?

Keesee grants are available for a maximum of 6 semesters for students enrolled in a Doctor of Ministry program.

Can I receive a Keesee grant if I am in the research/writing/dissertation/project portion of my degree program?

Yes, if you were eligible for a Keesee grant prior to entering the research/writing phase of your program you are eligible for a Keesee grant. If you were not eligible for a Keesee grant (i.e. you were an online student before entering the research/writing phase; you completed classes prior to entering the writing phase from another school that is not a Keesee beneficiary school) you are not eligible for a Keesee grant upon entering the research/writing/dissertation/project phase.

May I use my Keesee grant for living expenses?

Keesee grants are available for tuition, fees, and books, with any excess available to be used for living expenses. Grants are issued directly to the school. If the grant award combined with other resources exceeds your expenses, you will need to contact your school and follow their policy for excess funds. We do not issue grant awards to individual students.