Frequently Asked Questions – Master's 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?

REPEAT APPLICANTS:

The Deadline date for submitting an application for the Master's Degree grant for **REPEAT APPLICANTS** is:

Fall/Spring Semester (Academic Year) **DUE MARCH 1st**
Application portal is open January 1st – March 1st*

Spring Semester Only – **DUE OCTOBER 1st**
Application portal is open August 1st – October 1st*

You are unable to apply outside the application window previously stated.

NEW APPLICANTS:

The Deadline date for submitting an application for the Master's Degree grant for **NEW APPLICANTS** is:

Fall/Spring Semester (Academic Year) **DUE APRIL 1st**
Application portal is open January 1st – April 1st*

Spring Semester Only – **DUE OCTOBER 1st**
Application portal is open August 1st – October 1st*

You are unable to apply outside the application window previously stated.

**If a deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, applications will be accepted the next Keesee business day.*

Am I required to submit a transcript with my application?

Yes, you must submit an unofficial copy of your most recent transcript to include the following:

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

I haven't been to school in 10+ years, am I still required to upload my most recent transcript?

Yes, you are required to upload your most recent transcript regardless of how long it has been since you attended classes.

Are grants available for summer session?

Keesee grants are available for up to two classes for summer session for Master's students who received a fall and/or spring grant the preceding semesters. In addition to summer grant awards being available to students enrolled in a qualified class (on-campus, hybrid, equip class, class at an extension center, practicum, or mentored internship class), summer grants are also available to students enrolled solely in online classes for summer session. Summer is the only session in which you may receive a grant and take only online summer classes. Please contact the financial aid office of your school to learn its policy for applying for a Keesee summer grant award.

Why is my grant award less than I received in previous years?

Application decisions do not rest on a single factor, but on the strength of the entire application. The number of applications approved and resources available are considered when determining grant awards.

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 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 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 8 semesters for Master's students. Summer grant awards are not included in this number. For example, if you received an academic year grant award (fall and spring) and also a summer grant award, for our purposes, you are considered to have received two Keesee grant awards.

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.