

Are You Called by God for Ministry as a Military Chaplain?

The new Church, State, and Industry Foundation (CSIF) wants to support your call financially in accordance with the following goal:

“To provide encouragement and support to those experiencing a Call from God to serve as a Military Chaplain (in any of the Armed Forces of the United States of America in any status – Active Duty, National Guard, or Reserve) – as qualified clergy (Ministers, Priests, Imams, Rabbis, etc.), particularly by providing financial assistance which will help to ameliorate the financial pressures inherent in meeting the requisite educational requirements for commissioning and service.”

CSIF Scholarship Grant/Loans **Available to Military Chaplain Candidates & New Chaplains**

1. ***Seminary or graduate school grant/loans*** (for full-time students who have already completed one year of full-time studies with a GPA of 2.8 or higher, and who have been granted Chaplain Candidate status in the Air Force, Army, or Navy)
2. ***A Clinical Pastoral Education tuition one-time grant/loan*** (for Chaplain Candidates, as above)
3. ***A one-time grant/loan to help pay seminary indebtedness*** (for Chaplain Candidates who have completed seminary, or newly-accessioned Chaplains who were commissioned on or after 1 January 2007)

Definition of “Grant/Loan”

The total amount paid shall be considered a GRANT which does not have to be repaid if the Chaplain Candidate is ultimately endorsed for Chaplaincy and serves as a Military Chaplain for at least as long as his or her initial (or subsequent) military commissioning contract requires. HOWEVER, the grant shall become A REPAYABLE LOAN -- requiring repayment on an established schedule at a contractually-specified rate of interest – if the Chaplain Candidate is not commissioned, or if the Chaplain does not complete his or her military commissioning contract requirements. (Please see the enclosed CSIF Scholarship Goals and Policies attached for details)

Established Scholarship Award Limits

The present established limit of the seminary or graduate school scholarship awards shall be up to a \$5000 lump-sum payment per academic year. Students may apply for a total of three academic years, unless their faith group/denomination requires additional years of graduate school (as a full time student) beyond the three as a requirement for ordination and endorsement, in which case they may apply for the additional year(s). The limits for a grant to be applied to seminary indebtedness by those who have already received their degree and who continue as Chaplain Candidates, or who have been endorsed and newly-commissioned as Chaplains, shall be a one-time grant of up to \$5000. The limits for a tuition scholarship for a Clinical Pastoral Education basic unit shall be up to \$1000.

Application Procedures

In order for an application to be processed by our Grant/Loan Selection Team, the enclosed application and all of the elements specified as a part of the “application package” must be mailed to:

Church, State, and Industry Foundation, P.O. Box 384, West Branch, IA 52358,
postmarked no later than January 11, 2010.

[Questions may be e-mailed to Chaplain Davison at info@chaplain-csif.com]

Church, State, and Industry Foundation
Military Chaplain Candidate Scholarships & Educational-Indebtedness-Assistance Fund
Goals and Implementing Policies

I. MILITARY CHAPLAIN SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS -- GOALS:

To provide encouragement and support to those experiencing a Call from God to serve as Military Chaplains, in any of the Armed Forces of the United States of America in any status (Active Duty, National Guard, or Reserve) as qualified clergy (Ministers, Priests, Imams, Rabbis, etc.) -- particularly by providing financial assistance which will help to ameliorate the financial pressures inherent in meeting the requisite educational requirements for commissioning and service.

II. IMPLEMENTING POLICIES – GRANTS/LOANS:

A. GRANTS -- Such financial support will take the form of GRANTS for educational expenses:

1. Paid directly to a seminary/graduate school, annually, while the Chaplain Candidate is in his or her 2nd or 3rd year as a full-time student, in an amount based upon established limits*, OR
2. Paid as tuition to an institution providing Clinical Pastoral Education (or its equivalent) to a Chaplain Candidate in the event that such training is a pre-ordination and/or endorsement requirement – in an amount within established limits, OR
3. Paid directly to a lender if the newly-accessioned Chaplain or Chaplain Candidate has completed seminary/graduate school requirements, to help pay educational indebtedness – in an amount within established limits.

B. LOANS -- The total amount paid shall be considered a GRANT which does not have to be repaid if the Chaplain Candidate is ultimately endorsed for Chaplaincy and serves as a Military Chaplain for at least as long as his or her initial (or subsequent) military commissioning contract requires. **HOWEVER**, the grant shall become A REPAYABLE LOAN -- requiring repayment on an established schedule at a contractually-specified rate of interest -- IF

1. the Candidate is unable to serve as a Military Chaplain because he or she does not receive (or decides not to apply for) the required Ecclesiastical Endorsement, or
2. the Candidate is unable to serve as a Military Chaplain because he or she fails to meet or maintain physical or other requirements for commissioned service, and/or
3. the Candidate is discharged from commissioned service prior to completing the number of months of service specified by their military contract. **HOWEVER:**

C. HARDSHIP -- if the reasons a Chaplain Candidate cannot be endorsed (or, as a Chaplain, cannot complete the contractual months of service) are reasons beyond the Candidate/Chaplain's control (for example, serious injury, or extreme medical circumstances, or personal circumstances of verifiable hardship IAW Military Hardship Discharge regulations) . . . or in the event of the untimely death of the Candidate / Chaplain – then a request for waiver of repayment can be submitted and, on the basis of appropriate supporting documentation, such request shall be approved.

D. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY -- All loan/grants shall be available to any applicant for Military Chaplaincy regardless of race, gender, national origin, faith group, or other discriminators in accordance with the equal opportunity provisions established in the regulations of the branch(s) of service for which the applicant is applying.

E. ESTABLISHED SCHOLARSHIP AWARD LIMITS -- The established limits of the scholarship awards shall be up to a \$5000 lump-sum payment per academic year. Students may apply for a total of three academic years, unless their faith group/denomination requires additional years of graduate school (as a full time student) beyond the three as a requirement for ordination and endorsement, in which case they may apply for the additional year(s). The limits for a grant to be applied to seminary indebtedness by those who have already received their degree shall be a one-time grant of up to \$5000. The limits for a tuition scholarship for a Clinical Pastoral Education basic unit shall be up to \$1000. (These limits may be reviewed by the Board of Directors from year to year, and may be modified at the Board's discretion by a majority of those voting.)

F. ELIGIBILITY* –

4. ***For a seminary or graduate school grant/loan:*** Any student who expresses an interest in Military Chaplaincy, who is in good standing with his or her denominational judicatory, who has been accepted by a seminary/graduate school for a course of study which could lead to ordination and ecclesiastical endorsement for Military Chaplaincy, who has already completed one year of full-time studies, with a GPA of 2.8 or higher, and who has been granted Chaplain Candidate status in the Air Force, Army, or Navy is eligible to apply.
5. ***For a Clinical Pastoral Education tuition grant/loan:*** Any Military Chaplain Candidate for whom a basic unit of CPE is a requirement for ordination and endorsement is eligible to apply.
6. ***For a one-time grant/loan to help pay seminary indebtedness:*** Any seminary/graduate school graduate who is in good standing with his or her denominational judicatory, and who continues as a Chaplain Candidate, or who has been ecclesiastically endorsed, approved, and newly-accessioned (commissioned on or after 1 Jan 08 as a Military Chaplain is eligible to apply.

G. GRANT/LOAN AMOUNTS, AND NUMBER TO BE MADE ANNUALLY --

The Board of Directors at present has determined that the total value of grant/loans awarded each calendar year may range from 5% to 10% of the fund's invested principal, plus any amounts-from-donors designated for distribution – although the Board of Directors reserves the right to modify this limit by majority vote. Each year, the Board of Directors may review the established scholarship and debt retirement limits prior to publishing an updated application form. At present, these amount limits are as outlined in paragraph II.E above.

**Footnote: The above eligibility requirements are based upon the following assumptions –that every applicant for service as a Military Chaplain is eligible to serve as such only if:*

+He or she is a fully-ordained clergyperson endorsed for Military Chaplaincy by an official ecclesiastical endorsing agency of his or her denomination or faith-group; and

+He or she also meets the educational, physical, age, and other requirements of the branch of military service in which they hope to serve as a commissioned Military Chaplain.

visit our website www.chaplain-csif.com

Church, State, and Industry Foundation
Chaplain Candidate Seminarian Scholarship Application

Last Name: _____ First: _____ MI: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____ e-mail: _____
SSN: _____ Chaplain Candidate Commission Date: _____ Branch of Service: _____

Denomination or Faith-Group: _____

Endorsing agency & address: _____

Seminary / Graduate School and Office of Financial Aid Address: _____

Expected seminary / graduate degree completion date: _____

Expected date of full ordination: _____ Anticipated date of full Ecclesiastical Endorsement: _____

Marital Status: *single* *married* Number of non-spousal dependents: _____

Educational Indebtedness \$ _____, _____ (enclose documentation as required in #4 below.)

Please use continuation sheets to answer items 1-3 below

1. Undergraduate/graduate information [schools & years attended, diplomas/degrees earned]
2. Prior military service and/or experience with the ministry of Military Chaplains.
3. Important factors and income resources related to your need for financial support, including current family situation

Please enclose the following items in your application package:

1. Current official military photograph.
2. Your most recent seminary grade transcript.
3. Four letters of reference: a) from a school official stating that you are enrolled as a full time student; b) from your religious faith group endorser stating your present ecclesiastical endorsement status; c) one letter each from a clergy-person and from a lay-person familiar with your ministry to date.
4. Provide the following financial information: a) total educational indebtedness to date (*Candidate only, not spouse*); b) this school year's tuition, books, & fees total cost; c) this school year's scholarship grants (*not loans*) which will help cover total costs specified in item b.
5. Short essay [max 500 words] on your sense of call to ministry in general, and to pastoral care for military personnel and their families in particular.
6. A short statement on your understanding thus far of ministry in a religiously diverse environment such as the Armed Forces of the United States.
7. A description of your Chaplain Candidate military experiences to date, plus a copy of your most recent military education and/or Chaplain Candidate evaluation report, including height/weight and most recent **PT Test results**.
8. If this application is for CPE Tuition Assistance, please provide documentation from your faith-group judicatory verifying that a basic unit of CPE is required for full ordination and/or ecclesiastical endorsement, plus a statement from your CPE Supervisor that you have been accepted into the program, plus the amount of tuition due.

All materials must be postmarked no later than January 11, 2010, and be mailed to Church, State, and Industry Foundation, PO Box 384, West Branch, IA 52358

