

# MMS Guidelines for Establishing a Church-Wide Scholarship Fund

## I. Clearly state the purpose of the Scholarship Fund:

The purpose of the \_\_\_\_\_ scholarship fund is to:

- Encourage church members to further their education at approved Christian institutions of higher education
- Encourage those same church members with potential financial support
- Provide donors the opportunity to assist church members in their pursuit of Christian higher education

## II. Clearly state those who may apply for a scholarship from the fund:

Any member meeting the following qualifications is eligible to apply for scholarship funds:

- A regularly attending, tithing and serving member of the church in good standing for a minimum of six months (or be a child of the described member)
- Attending a Christian College from the church approved list
- Pursuing a specific degree program
- Achieve/maintain a minimum of a \_\_\_\_\_ GPA in all college courses taken to date

## III. Clearly state the application process and deadlines:

Anyone wishing to apply for a scholarship must complete the application form and file it with the church office no later than \_\_\_\_\_ for Spring semesters and \_\_\_\_\_ for Fall semesters.

After the above deadlines, the scholarship committee will meet to review the candidate's applications as well as funds currently available for distribution. All candidates will be notified no later than \_\_\_\_\_ for Spring semesters and \_\_\_\_\_ for Fall semesters.

Awards are granted seeking to balance all qualified applicants needs with available funds. Fall and Spring semester awards are completely independent of each other and there are no guarantee of renewal at any time. The maximum per student per semester award is \_\_\_\_\_.

## IV. Clearly state how to make contributions to the fund:

Church members, non-church members and foundations are encouraged to contribute to the fund. Scholarship donations may be given through the Sunday morning offering or mailed into the church and clearly marked "\_\_\_\_\_ General College Scholarship Fund".

It is understood that in order to meet IRS guidelines, donors of the funds must relinquish complete legal and influential control of the funds to the church and its leadership. This is to insure that the church will maintain its 501c3 not-for-profit status, and insure that donors receive contribution credit.

While donor's family members are permitted to apply for scholarship funds if they meet the application criteria, it is understood that their applications will receive the same consideration as all other qualified applicants. Donations to the fund has no barring on funds distributed.