

HOW TO APPLY FOR A 2026-27 SIM SCHOLARSHIP

Questions? Contact us at <mailto:info@simministry.org> or 770-598-6636

Before you apply, please be aware: All scholarship funds from SIM are directly applied to a seminarian's or theological student's tuition and scholastic expenses only and will be forwarded directly to a student's respective seminary. SIM does not fund ministry projects. Ministry project funds for seminarians or theological students are available through the Episcopal Evangelism Society (EES) and United Thank Offering (UTO) through their grants web pages. <http://www.ees1862.org/>
<https://unitedthankoffering.com/granting/>.

GET STARTED

- 1 Complete and submit the [Personal and Financial information](#) form online.
- 2 Download the Applicant & Seminary Certification form.
A link to this form will be emailed to you when we receive your submission from Step 1.

Print the completed Personal and Financial Information form and the Applicant & Seminary Certification and deliver both to your seminary or school financial aid office so they can review your information and complete the Certification. *These constitute a confirmation of your admission and an endorsement of your financial information.*

WRITE YOUR ESSAY(S)

You may apply for any or all of the scholarships we offer. Essays must be no more than 1500 words.

GATHER SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

****YOU MUST SUBMIT ALL DOCUMENTATION AT ONE TIME ****

Upload via the form at <https://www.simministry.org/2026-application-2>

Once you have received the Certification from your seminary or school of studies, and completed your essay(s), gather, scan, and upload the following materials:

- Completed Applicant and Seminary or School Certification
- Your completed Personal and Financial Information
- Your essay(s)
- Copy of most recent original transcript (submitted by applicant or direct to SIM on your behalf)
- 2 letters of reference
- Bishop's Letter, endorsing your postulancy and/or seminary or theological course of studies or otherwise identified pursuit of theological education. (Students at non-

Episcopal seminaries and divinity schools also need a Bishop's approval for their course of studies).

- Resume

Regarding Letters of Reference

The Scholarship Committee regards letters of reference as an important way to gain further insight into an applicant that only someone who knows them could provide. In addition to an applicant's essay, letters often supply insights into the candidate that may be crucial to the Committee's decision-making. Along with the essay, letters are a crucial ingredient to presenting as full a picture of the applicant as an aspiring leader in the church. Insofar as your acquaintance with the applicant allows, letters should also attest to an outstanding commitment to justice and racial healing on the applicant's part.

Applicants, please convey this information to faculty and others submitting references on your behalf and to your Bishop or Canon for Ministry, as well. See below for specific categories of letters of reference.

1. For faculty or pastoral mentors – We request that letters of recommendation be submitted by someone who knows the applicant well and can attest to their work or academic experience over a period of at least twelve months, if not longer. These letters are instrumental in our further getting to know the applicant and in supplying another's witness to their vocational aspirations and/or academic acumen.
2. For Bishops or Canons for Ministry – SIM requests a letter that does more than attest to an applicant's canonical status and shows the letter-writer's acquaintance with the applicant through their process of becoming an aspirant, postulant, or candidate for Holy Orders, or as a layperson pursuing a theological education. The more personal a reference is, the more it effectively adds to the Committee's sense of the applicant. **A copy of this particular directive will be forwarded to your Bishop, as well.**
3. For Bishops and others from dioceses of International Students – Letters of reference and from Bishops or others should have an endorsement of the applicant's academic acumen and/or pastoral abilities. The level of enthusiasm for this applicant will bear great weight in the Scholarship Committee's deliberations. The more personal a reference is, the more it effectively adds to the Committee's sense of the applicant. This is a competitive process, and the Committee looks for seminarians and theological students that have distinguished themselves in the ways described above.

SIM does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, gender expression, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, in any of its activities or operations.