



**Westminster
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

The Robert C. Bos Seminary Education Scholarship Award

Background Information

Robert Bos was raised in a Christian home, the second son of a family of four boys. The church was an important part of his family life. While in junior high school, he began to give serious consideration to the vocation of ministry. He accepted the call to ministry following his sophomore year as a student at Hope College in Holland, Michigan, a church-related school. Following graduation from college in 1952 with a B.A. degree, he attended Western Theological Seminary, also in Holland, and graduated in 1955 with a M.Div. degree. He was ordained into the gospel ministry in 1955 by the Reformed Church in America, the denomination of his roots. He served as assistant pastor at Hope Reformed Church in Chicago, Illinois for a year and a half. In 1957 he was called as associate pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Santa Ana, California. In 1960, he became pastor of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church in Monterey Park, California.

In 1968, he was called by the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii to be the organizing pastor of a congregation that later became Westminster Presbyterian Church in a new, planned community called Westlake Village, located in Southern California on the Los Angeles/Ventura county line. While serving that congregation, in 1978 he received a D.Min. degree from San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo, California. He retired while serving as pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church in 1994. Upon retirement he continued in ministry as an interim pastor in a church needing such leadership.

In 1993, during Dr. Bos' twenty-fifth year with Westminster and the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Celebration of the church, the church's members established two perpetual scholarship funds. One was established in honor of Dr. Robert C. Bos as the founding pastor, the other in honor of his wife Carole M. Hoffs Bos. Dr. Bos chose to designate his award as an aid toward seminary education.

Dr. and Mrs. Bos, each in their own way, have made significant impacts on the lives of the members of Westminster during their tenure. The single underlying purpose of the two scholarships funds is to provide awards that will demonstrate and perpetuate their unselfish contributions to the advancement of the ideals and principals of the Christian faith.

Selection Process

1. The Scholarship Committee will include a minimum of one seated Member of the Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church, a minimum of two members-at-large from the Westminster Presbyterian Church congregation who have familiarized themselves with ministry education, and a member of the Bos family or designee. The Committee will select a chair.
2. The Scholarship Committee will inform the Committee on Preparation for Ministry of the Presbytery of San Fernando of the availability of the scholarship.
3. Prospective recipients shall apply for this scholarship through the Robert C. Bos Scholarship Committee, at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

4. Application can be made at any time but the interview and selection process for the following school year will occur during the months of April and May, Only applications which are complete before April 15th will be considered in that year's selection process.
5. The Robert C. Bos Scholarship Committee may interview applicants who meet the scholarship criteria and will select a recipient(s).
6. Upon selection of the appropriate recipient(s), the chair of the Scholarship Committee will review the Committee's actions with the Children's and Family Ministries Committee. Children's and Family Ministries will include the presentation review in the Session's minutes. The Chair of the Scholarship Committee will request payment from the Business Administrator of the church for tuition and/or books to be paid directly to the student's chosen college or university.
7. In accepting this scholarship the recipient(s) gives permission for the seminary of choice and Westminster Presbyterian Church to publicize the student's receiving of the scholarship.

Selection Criteria

Recipients of this scholarship should meet the following criteria. Please read carefully and applicants will inform the Committee how each relates to you:

1. Must be a student considering a call to the ordained pastoral ministry and needing seminary education. Preference will be given to those considering pastoral ministry within the Presbyterian Church.
2. The student should qualify as being "under care" according to the guidelines of the Presbytery of San Fernando's Committee on Preparation for Ministry and must be enrolled or has been accepted by a seminary. First preference will be given to students from Westminster Presbyterian Church. If no qualified student applies, the scholarship will be awarded to a student in a Presbyterian Church within the Presbytery of San Fernando. If no qualified student applies the scholarship will be awarded to a student who qualifies according to the guidelines of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry in other presbyteries in the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii. If there are no applicants, the region can be broadened at the discretion of the Westminster Presbyterian Church Scholarship Committee.
3. Financial need shall be a primary consideration. It is expected that the applicant shall apply for financial aid at the seminary including federal student aid.
4. If the applicant is entering seminary for the first time a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 in prior academic years and 3.5 in the last academic year before entering seminary will be required. If the applicant is in seminary he/she must earn at least a 3.25 GPA.
5. Consideration shall be given to the candidate's involvement in ministry related extra-curricular activities.
6. This scholarship is presented to a student regardless of sex, race, or age.

Provisions

This scholarship may usually be retained not to exceed three (3) consecutive academic years provided the Master of Divinity Program, recipient meets the following requirements:

1. Completion of a minimum of twelve (12) credits per semester/quarter.
2. Maintenance of a 3.25 cumulative grade point average at the end of each academic semester/quarter. Failure to regain the required grade point average after the academic semester/quarter may result in the loss of the scholarship.
3. It is the responsibility of the recipient(s) of the award to notify the Robert C. Bos Scholarship Committee with a record of his/her grades at the end of each semester/quarter.
4. In the event that the recipient withdraws from the education institution before completion of the school year, the recipient will be required to notify the Committee immediately of such withdrawal and may be required to reimburse the Robert C. Bos Scholarship Committee for the scholarship awarded for that school year.

Further consideration may be given to students pursuing advanced studies in Pastoral Ministries.

Application Procedures

An application form is provided below. This application includes only basic information. On an attached letter (min. 150 words) please discuss yourself and your life objectives including especially the following:

1. Your educational goals.
2. Your career goals.
3. Your reason(s) for applying, including financial need.
4. Any deficiencies from the criteria listed above, your plans for corrective action, and further circumstances that you feel the Committee should be made aware.

Please attach copies of you Student Aid Report, Seminary Award letter and transcripts for both your previous degree and any seminary work already completed.

Westminster Presbyterian Church
32111 Watergate Road
Westlake Village, California 91361
(818) 889-1491
www.wpcwestlake.org

Application Form

The Robert C. Bos Seminary Education Scholarship Award

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Home & Business/Daytime Phone: _____

Home Church: _____ Member? _____ yes _____ no

Presbytery of Care: _____

Place of Seminary Enrollment/Acceptance: _____

Current Employment: _____

Educational Background: _____

Background Experiences in Fields Related Ministry: _____

(attach additional sheets as needed)