

Robert Houser Scholarship Policy

Adopted January 26, 2008

Revised June 23, 2009

Revised January 24, 2015

1. Funds from this scholarship program are available to full- and part-time Candidates enrolled in seminary.
2. Grants may be up to \$100 per credit hour, not to exceed \$5,000 over the seminary experience.
3. Distribution of funds will be made only for current semester/term classes.
4. Funds are to be requested using a presbytery voucher, with a copy of the current class schedule attached, submitted by a Candidate to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry.
5. Vouchers are to be signed by the chairperson of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry and submitted to the treasurer of the presbytery for disbursement.
6. The Robert Houser Scholarship is also available to Ministers of Word and Sacrament who wish to pursue a Doctor of Ministry degree under the same guidelines as Candidates in items 1-5. In addition, a minister who accepts a Houser Scholarship will covenant with the Committee on Preparation for Ministry to remain in the presbytery for at least twelve (12) months following receipt of the scholarship.
7. Candidates under care of Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery will have first priority in receiving scholarships, with Ministers being eligible based upon availability of funds.
8. Rational: This scholarship is for Candidates primarily, because we as a presbytery have a mandated interest according to the Book of Order. Part of our care is to provide Candidates with funds to help relieve the stress of financial responsibilities. However, with adequate funds available, enabling pastors to seek a D. Min. will strengthen the presbytery's leadership potential.

Amended January 24, 2015: In order to preserve the balance of funds, the Presbytery has approved (November 18, 2014) treating all investments, including the Houser Fund, as endowment. This means that in a typical year, approximately \$1,400 is available to be shared among all enrolled Candidates. In the event the fund grows, grants will not exceed \$100 per credit hour and \$5,000 over the seminary experience.