

## Financial Policy for Seminarians

### I. Seminary Programs

#### A. College

A student who has been accepted by the diocese, but has not yet completed undergraduate studies, will be sent to a college seminary to study for a Bachelor degree and fulfill the requirements to enter a theologate.

##### 1. Financial Policy for College Seminarians.

Applicants will be asked to complete a financial disclosure statement, listing his assets, debts, and a plan for repaying any personal debts. Copies of income tax records for the last full year will also be requested.

- a. College seminarians will apply for student loans, scholarships, grants, and work/study opportunities to pay for tuition. Upon ordination to the priesthood for the Diocese of Gallup the diocese will assume the student loans made for tuition. The diocese will pay for room and board while students are in the seminary.
- b. If no other provision can be made, the diocese will cover the cost of required student fees, textbooks, the cost of travel from the diocese to the seminary in the Fall and from the seminary to the diocese in the Spring. The seminarian will also receive a (\$225 per month) stipend from the diocese.
- c. In the event that a college seminarian cannot remain on his own or his parents' insurance plan, the diocese will determine and provide for the student's basic health insurance coverage through the Seminary's health plan. In this case the college seminarian will be responsible for deductible and co-payments.

## **B. Pre –Theology**

An applicant who has a college degree but is lacking 30 hours of philosophy and 12 hours in Theology will participate in the two year Pre-theology program to fulfill the requirements to enter a Major Seminary.

### **1. Financial Policy for Pre-theologians.**

Applicants will be asked to complete a financial disclosure statement, listing his assets, debts, and a plan for repaying any personal debts. Copies of income tax records for the last full year will also be requested.

- a. Pre-theologians will apply for student loans, scholarships, grants, and work/study opportunities to pay for tuition. Upon ordination to the priesthood for the Diocese of Gallup the diocese will assume the student loans made for tuition. The diocese will pay for room and board while students are in the seminary.
- b. If no other provision can be made, the diocese will cover the cost of required student fees, textbooks, the cost of travel from the diocese to the seminary in the Fall and from the seminary to the diocese in the Spring. The seminarian will also receive a (\$225 per month) stipend from the diocese.
- c. In the event that a seminarian cannot remain on his own or his parents' insurance plan, the diocese will determine and provide for the students basic health insurance coverage through the Seminary's health plan. In this case the seminarian will be responsible for deductible and co-payments.

### **C. Theology**

A seminarian who has satisfied the requirements for entering a Major Seminary will pursue a course of studies that leads to a graduate level degree: Master of divinity or Master of Arts. If the seminarian studies at a Pontifical university he will obtain the Bachelor of Sacred Theology.

#### **1. Financial policy for Seminarians in Major Seminary.**

Applicants will be asked to complete a financial disclosure statement, listing his assets, debts, and a plan for repaying any personal debts. Copies of income tax records for the last full year will also be requested.

- a. Theologians will apply for scholarships and grants. Costs of tuition, room and board, and student fees which cannot be covered by these means, will be paid for by the diocese.
- b. If no other provision can be made, the diocese will cover the cost of required textbooks, the cost of travel from the diocese to the seminary in the Fall and from the seminary to the diocese in the Spring. The seminarian will also receive a (\$250 per month) stipend from the diocese.
- c. In the event that a seminarian cannot remain on his own or his parents' insurance plan, the diocese will determine and provide for the students basic health insurance coverage through the Seminary's health plan. In this case the seminarian will be responsible for deductible and co-payments.

#### **D. Transitional Deacons**

A seminarian who is Ordained to the transitional Diaconate while still in seminary training will receive the same benefits as theology students, and will be accepted into the diocesan health plan and will be responsible for the deductible and co-payments. The diocese will pay for the pre-diaconate ordination retreat and the pre-priesthood ordination retreat subject to approval. The Diocese will provide catering for the reception of priesthood ordinations that take place at the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Gallup. Transitional deacons who are assigned to parish ministry before priestly ordination will receive the benefits offered to priests.

## **E. Pastoral Internships**

Some seminaries require a pastoral internship program. These programs at times offer academic credit in return for the time spent fulfilling the requirements. Occasionally a seminarian may be assigned to an internship for other reasons to assist in their overall preparation for priestly ministry.

### **1. Financial policy for Seminarians in Pastoral Internship programs.**

- a. The diocese will offset the cost of traveling to the internship parish at the beginning of the program and returning (either home or to the Seminary) at the end of the program.
- b. The diocese will offset the cost of travel to and from the seminary for required visits such as retreats.
- c. The seminarian will receive a (\$250.00 per month) stipend from the diocese.
- d. In the event that a seminarian cannot remain on his own or his parents' insurance plan, the diocese will determine and provide for the students basic health insurance coverage (through the Seminary's health plan when possible). In this case the seminarian will be responsible for deductible and co-payments.
- e. The diocese will offset expenses incurred as a direct result of fulfilling requirements of the pastoral internship plan, (for example fees, tuition, books, and travel for courses or workshops taken while on internship).
- f. The parish will provide for the cost of meals, and provide housing.