

501 **Waterford Mennonite Church**
502 **Bethany Christian Schools Aid Plan**
503

504 **Introduction**

505 The Waterford Mennonite Church recognizes that one of the needs of the congregation is to provide
506 adequate opportunity for the spiritual formation of attenders, both in preparation for a vocation and
507 for fullest participation in the life of the church. We want to make it possible for students to enter
508 educational programs that can prepare them for a vocation and for the fullest expression of their gifts
509 in the life and mission of the church.

510
511 **Basic Philosophy**

512 The congregational Bethany Christian Schools Aid Plan has the following purposes:

- 513 1. To affirm our belief in the distinct values of Christian education in the Anabaptist-Mennonite
514 tradition.
515 2. To encourage attenders to pursue Christian education at Mennonite church schools.
516 3. To reduce the financial burden created by attending a private middle or high school.
517 4. To promote a spirit of sharing and servanthood in our congregation.
518 5. To give students further opportunity to learn about and appreciate Anabaptist-Mennonite
519 theology, biblical interpretation, and lifestyle applications in today's society.
520

521 **Operating Principles**

522 The operating principle of the MC/SAP is to make up part of the difference that now exists between
523 the cost of education at a private Mennonite school and the cost of a tax-supported, state-operated
524 institution. It is meant to reduce the financial factor in a student's decision-making. Aid will be given
525 in the form of grants, not as loans.
526

527 Waterford Mennonite Church has maintained a Bethany Financial Aid Plan since 1983. The
528 congregation continues to support each student who attends Bethany Christian Schools by providing
529 financial assistance. The plan is administered by the Mennonite Education Fund committee, which is
530 comprised of the assistant treasurer for Mennonite Education Fund, minister to youth, and three
531 members of the congregation approved by the Ministry Leadership Council.
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533 The following guidelines were established to help administer this plan. All applications and/or
534 exceptions must be reviewed by the Mennonite Education Fund committee.
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536 **Operational Procedures**

- 537 1. Students; both the student and their parents are members or have been actively attending
538 Waterford for 12 months prior to the beginning of school year for which assistance is being
539 received (typically around September 1) are eligible for the Plan. In order to be eligible, each
540 student **MUST SUBMIT AN APPLICATION** by the deadline on the application form.

541 Waterford Mennonite Church expects both the student and parent(s) to attend Sunday
542 services and actively participate in other activities, including the student's regular MYF or
543 Junior MYF attendance. After graduation the congregation encourages students to continue

544 attending and supporting either Waterford Mennonite Church or other Mennonite
545 congregations.

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547 2. Waterford Mennonite Church intends to provide 65 percent of the cost of tuition for students
548 at Bethany Christian. Families of students will be responsible to pay 35 percent of tuition
549 directly to Bethany Christian. The amount of the financial obligation designated by these
550 percentages will be calculated after all eligible discounts have been applied (e.g. Family
551 discount, and Employee discount), according to Bethany's standard discount plan. (The
552 Facilities and Finance Ministry Team will develop an annual spending plan as part of its
553 normal procedures. If an adjustment from the 65-percent contribution seems appropriate, the
554 change will be communicated to families as soon as possible.)
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556 3. If needed, families are encouraged to apply for additional assistance through Bethany
557 Christian. If the families of the students are unable to meet the financial obligation that
558 remains, requests for additional assistance should be brought to the Mennonite Education
559 Fund committee after applying for assistance through Bethany.

560 4. Unless meeting the exceptions listed below, late applications will be considered, at the
561 discretion of the MEF Committee, for funding at the following amounts:

562	<u>Application Submitted:</u>	<u>Maximum Possible Funding</u>
563	within 1 month after application deadline:	50% of regular amount
564	up to 2 months after application deadline:	25% of regular amount
565	past 2 months after application deadline:	none

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567 ***Exceptions:***

568 a. Households who *relocate to the Goshen community* after the deadlines described above
569 and would like to send their child(ren) to Bethany must request special consideration
570 from the Mennonite Education Fund committee no later than June 15. (This exception
571 does not apply to households who currently live in the Goshen community and begin
572 attending Waterford after the deadline.) Students from households that begin attending
573 Waterford after the deadline would typically not be eligible for the Plan until the
574 following year.

575 b. If a student becomes a new Christian, is from a non-Christian home, is not attending
576 another church and plans to make Waterford his/her church home, this student could be
577 added to the Plan in consultation with the pastoral team.

578 c. If the congregation wishes to sponsor a student from another setting (such as a mission
579 project) this student may be added to the plan in consultation with the MEF committee.

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Waterford Mennonite Church Mennonite College/Seminary Aid Plan

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Introduction

606 Waterford Mennonite Church recognizes that one of the needs of the congregation is to provide
607 adequate opportunity for the spiritual of attenders, both in preparation for a vocation and for fullest
608 participation in the life of the church. We want to make it possible for students to enter educational
609 programs that can prepare them for a vocation and for the fullest expression of their gifts in the life
610 and mission of the church.

611

Basic Philosophy

612 The congregational Mennonite College/Seminary Aid Plan has the following purposes:

- 613
- 614 1. To affirm our belief in the distinct values of Christian education in the Anabaptist-Mennonite
615 tradition.
 - 616 2. To encourage attenders to pursue Christian education at Mennonite church schools.
 - 617 3. To reduce the financial burden created by attending a private Mennonite college/seminary.
 - 618 4. To promote a spirit of sharing and servanthood in our congregation.
 - 619 5. To give students further opportunity to learn about and appreciate Anabaptist-Mennonite
620 theology, biblical interpretation, and lifestyle applications in today's society.

621

Operating Principles

622 The operating principle of this plan is to make up part of the difference that now exists between the
623 cost of education at a private Mennonite college/seminary and the cost of a tax-supported, state-
624 operated institution. It is meant to reduce the financial factor in a student's decision-making. Aid will
625 be given in the form of grants, not as loans.
626

627 Waterford Mennonite Church has maintained a college/seminary aid plan since the early 1980s. The
628 congregation continues to support each student who attends a Mennonite college/seminary by
629 providing financial assistance. The plan is administered by the Mennonite Education Fund committee,
630 which is comprised of the assistant treasurer for Mennonite Education Fund, minister to youth, and
631 three members of the congregation approved by the Ministry Leadership Council.
632

633 The following guidelines were established to help administer this plan. All applications and/or
634 exceptions must be reviewed by the Mennonite Education Fund committee.
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Operational Procedures

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- 639 1. Unless exception is granted, Mennonite College/Seminary Aid will be available only to
640 members or regular attenders who consider this their home congregation and who have been
641 attending Waterford Mennonite Church regularly for twelve months prior to the beginning of
642 the term for which they are applying for assistance.

- 643 2. Waterford Mennonite intends to provide 20 percent of the cost of tuition for undergraduate
644 study and 30 percent of the cost of tuition for seminary study. The Facilities and Finance
645 Ministry Team will develop an annual spending plan as part of its normal procedures. If an
646 adjustment from these levels seems appropriate, the change will be communicated as soon as
647 possible.
- 648 3. For college and seminary aid, the MEF committee on a will review unusual requests and
649 second semester requests on a case-by-case basis.
- 650 4. Waterford Mennonite Church will provide a grant for each student enrolled at least half-time
651 at a Mennonite college. Students may apply for seminary assistance at any enrollment level.
- 652 5. Aid is available for undergraduate enrollment at Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite
653 Church Canada colleges, including Goshen College (IN), Hesston College (KS), Eastern
654 Mennonite University (VA), Bluffton University (OH), Bethel College (KS), Conrad Grebel
655 University College (Ont.), Canadian Mennonite University (Man.) and graduate enrollment at
656 Eastern Mennonite Seminary (VA) and Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary (IN).
- 657 6. A student will qualify for a maximum of eight semesters of undergraduate college aid and up
658 to 90 credit hours of seminary aid.
- 659 7. Students shall apply annually to the Mennonite Education Fund Committee for Mennonite
660 College/Seminary Aid. In addition, students are expected to apply for all other forms of
661 federal, state, and institutional aid for which they may be eligible.
- 662 8. A check payable to the appropriate college/seminary will be issued for each semester.
- 663 9. In order to be eligible, each student in traditional student programs **MUST SUBMIT AN**
664 **APPLICATION** by the deadline on the application form. Students in adult (degree
665 completion) programs are expected to complete an application by approximately two months
666 before the beginning of attendance.

667 Unless meeting the exceptions listed below, late applications will be considered, at the
668 discretion of the MEF Committee, for funding at the following amounts:

<u>Application Submitted:</u>	<u>Maximum Possible Funding</u>
669 After May 15 th :	50% of regular amount
670 After June 15 th :	25% of regular amount
671 After July 15 th :	none

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Waterford Mennonite Church Mennonite College Inquiry Programs Support Plan

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Introduction

707 The five Mennonite Church USA colleges sponsor inquiry programs, giving students the
708 opportunity to spend a three-month summer period in a camp, congregation or service agency
709 with the goal of exploring vocation and developing skills for leadership in these various areas of
710 ministry. These goals are achieved through active participation, observation of others in such
711 settings, and the mentoring of an on-site supervisor.

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713 Currently, there are 3 Inquiry programs:

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- 716 ➤ Ministry Inquiry Program (offered by all 5 Mennonite Church USA colleges)
 - 717 ➤ Service Inquiry Program (offered only by Goshen College)
 - 718 ➤ Camping Inquiry Program (offered only by Goshen College)

719 Students accepted into any of the Inquiry programs are funded by a combination (depending on
720 the program) of support from:

- 721
- 722 • The educational institution
 - 723 • Mennonite Church USA
 - 724 • Sending church conference
 - 725 • Receiving church conference
 - 726 • Hosting organization (congregation, service agency, camp)
 - 727 • Student's home congregation
- 728

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Operating Principles

731 For the student to participate in any of these programs, the home congregation is asked to provide
732 \$500 in support. WMC's Mennonite Education Fund will be used to provide this support for
733 eligible students. The guidelines to determine as to whether WMC is to be considered the
734 student's home church will be the same as those used for providing MEF tuition support to
735 students attending Mennonite colleges and seminaries.

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Operational Procedures

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- 739 1. An interested student will apply to their respective campus ministries department by January
740 31st prior to the summer they wish to participate and submit a copy of the application to the WMC
741 Mennonite Education Fund Committee.
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 - 743 2. If the student is accepted, the campus ministries department will contact WMC regarding its
744 willingness to participate in the student's chosen Inquiry program by providing \$500.
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 - 746 3. As part of their involvement in the program, students are encouraged to work with the pastoral
747 team to develop a plan for sharing with the congregation a written or oral summary of their
748 experiences and learnings.

801 **Waterford Mennonite Church**
802 **Mennonite Education Fund**

803 **Application for assistance, 2011-12**
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807 Student's name: _____
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809 **School and grade attending:**

810 _____ Bethany Christian (circle grade attending: 6 7 8 9 10 11 12)

811 _____ Mennonite college (circle year of study: 1 2 3 4)

812 _____ Mennonite seminary (indicate anticipated number of credit hours: _____)

813 Please indicate which school you are most likely to attend:

814 _____ Bethel College (Kan.)	_____ Goshen (Ind.) College
815 _____ Bluffton (Ohio) University	_____ Hesston (Kan.) College
816 _____ Canadian Mennonite Univ (Man.)	_____ Associated Menno. Biblical Seminary (Ind.)
817 _____ Conrad Grebel Univ. College (Ont.)	_____ Eastern Mennonite Seminary (Va.)
818 _____ Eastern Mennonite University (Va.)	

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820 As part of its ministry, Waterford Mennonite Church provides financial assistance to students choosing to
821 attend Mennonite schools at the middle school, high school, college/university, and seminary levels.
822 Eligibility for assistance is described on the attached sheet.

823 Waterford intends to provide 65 percent of the cost of tuition for students at Bethany Christian Schools,
824 20 percent of the cost of tuition for the undergraduate studies at the schools listed above, and 30 percent
825 of the cost of tuition at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary and Eastern Mennonite Seminary. The
826 amount of support is subject to the total amount committed by the congregation through the process of
827 developing the congregation's spending plan.

828 To be eligible for financial assistance, students should complete the reverse side of this form and submit it
829 to the church office by February 27. **Students must re-apply for assistance each year.**

