

Mississippi Baptist Convention

**BOARD OF MINISTERIAL
EDUCATION**

**MINISTERIAL
AID
PROGRAM**

**A financial aid program for Southern Baptist ministerial
students attending Baptist colleges in Mississippi**

What is Ministerial Aid?

Ministerial Aid is a financial aid program provided by the Mississippi Baptist Convention for ministerial students who attend Blue Mountain College, Mississippi College, and William Carey University.

Who Administers the Program?

The Board of Ministerial Education was founded by the Mississippi Baptist Convention in 1885 for the purpose of assisting ministers to secure a college education. The Board of Ministerial Education is composed of nine members elected by the Convention and three campus representatives who serve as ex-officio Board members.

Who is Eligible for Ministerial Aid?

The Board of Ministerial Education was originally established to provide assistance to licensed and ordained ministers only. In 1987, an amendment to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Constitution expanded the Board's work to include all qualified church related vocational students who are enrolled in one of Mississippi's Baptist colleges.

What Are the Funding Sources for Ministerial Aid?

Most of the funds budgeted for ministerial aid come from the Cooperative Program through the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board budget. The Board of Ministerial Education can also accept financial gifts which go directly to the ministerial aid program.

How Are the Funds Distributed?

Ministerial aid checks are issued monthly during the academic year (September through May) at the Baptist Building in Jackson and go to the students through the Campus Representative.

How Can Ministerial Aid be Used?

There are no restrictions on how ministerial aid is spent by the ministerial students. It can be used for tuition, rent, groceries, gasoline, medical expenses, etc. However, because these funds do go directly to the students, the IRS considers this taxable income and it must be included on a student's annual tax form.

How Can I Qualify for Ministerial Aid?

The Board of Ministerial Education has a number of qualifications for students who receive ministerial aid. These include:

1. Students must have made a public commitment to Southern Baptist ministry in the area of local church ministry, evangelism, North American, or International missions.
2. Students must be undergraduates enrolled full-time at Blue Mountain College, Mississippi College, or William Carey University.
3. Students must maintain a 2.0 grade point average.
4. Students must be active members of a contributing Southern Baptist Church.
5. Students must attend monthly meetings of their campus ministerial association.

6. Students must take the three hour course entitled “Baptist Work” or its equivalent.

What is the Financial Aid Agreement?

All students who receive ministerial aid must sign the Board of Ministerial Education’s Financial Aid Agreement. This legal document obligates the student to serve in a Southern Baptist ministry through a local Southern Baptist church, evangelism, North American or International missions for a period of time no less than that in which they have received ministerial aid. If a student fails to comply with this agreement, the ministerial aid becomes a loan which must be repaid to the Board of Ministerial Education.

How Can I Apply for Ministerial Aid?

Application materials for ministerial aid are available on each of the three campuses when students enroll in school at the beginning of a term. At Blue Mountain College, the applications are in the Bible Department; at Mississippi College they are in the Department of Christian Studies; and at William Carey University, applications may be obtained in the Office of the Cooper School of Missions.

How Many Students Receive Ministerial Aid?

The Board of Ministerial Education assists approximately 275 students annually.

**Board of Ministerial Education
Campus Representatives**

Blue Mountain College

Dr. Ronald Meeks

Mississippi College

Ms. Lynda Street

William Carey University

Dr. Daniel Caldwell

*Helping to train ministers to be “workers unashamed...rightly handling the Word of
Truth”.*

2 Timothy 2:15

Contact Information:

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