



Race Relations Multiracial Student Scholarship Fund

Purpose, Policy, Process, and Application

I. Synodical guidelines

A. In 1971, synod determined that “scholarships be provided each year as funds are available beginning in 1972 for financially needy students of minority groups in the United States and Canada within our ecclesiastical fellowship to attend colleges related to the Christian Reformed Church” in North America (CRCNA).

B. Synod 1991 limited Race Relations Multiracial Student Scholarships to not more than \$2,000 per recipient per year.

II. Purpose

The purpose of the Race Relations Multiracial Student Scholarship is to provide financial assistance for students of various ethnic minorities both in the United States and Canada. Normally, applicants will be members of CRCNA congregations who plan to pursue their educational goals at Calvin Theological Seminary or any of the colleges affiliated with the CRCNA—Calvin College, Dordt College, The King’s University College, Redeemer University College, Kuyper College, and Trinity Christian College. This Multiracial Student Scholarship Fund is one of the strategies employed by the Office of Race Relations to develop multiracial congregational leadership in the CRCNA.

III. Policy

A. First year students may receive up to \$500 per semester, depending on funds. No student will receive more than \$2,000 per academic year.

B. Scholarship recipients must have established contact with the CRCNA through attendance either at one of its churches or at one of its affiliated high schools.

C. Students who have no prior history with the CRCNA must attend a CRCNA-related college or Calvin Seminary for a full academic year before they are eligible to apply for a Race Relations Multiracial Student Scholarship. Applicants who have not yet affiliated with the CRCNA may be recommended at the discretion of the director of Race Relations and the executive director (ED). The criteria for a scholarship award will be the student’s potential for membership and active leadership in the CRCNA.



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D. Students are encouraged to explore all financial-aid options: government grants, family assistance, personal savings, and work-study programs.

E. Students receiving scholarships will avail themselves to train for and to engage in the ministry of racial reconciliation in church and/or in society. They will also demonstrate in their vocational and avocational interests support for the work of God's kingdom in or associated with the CRCNA. All students must be able to work in the United States or Canada upon graduation and must consider working for one of the agencies of the CRCNA.

F. The following minimum grades must be attained by scholarship recipients in the year of study prior to receiving said scholarship:

Freshman – Minimum required to enter college (including probation)

Sophomore – C or 2.0 on a four-point system

Junior – C+ or 2.3 on a four-point system

Senior -- B- or 2.6 on a four-point system

Graduate Level – Entrance and sustaining grade demanded by the institution

G. A pastor's or a church council's recommendation will be required of all applicants.

IV. Process

A. The academic institution submits a completed scholarship application and copies of the student's college application materials, including a copy of a letter of recommendation from the student's pastor or church council, grade point average (GPA), proof of active engagement in the ministry of racial reconciliation in the church and/or in society, and any other material the academic institution deems necessary.

B. The academic institution advises the director of Race Relations regarding which students meet the scholarship criteria and the amount of scholarship monies required for each student.

C. Scholarship applications must be received by the director of Race Relations by April 1, for recommendation to and approval by the EDM by May 31. Notification to recipients will be by June 15.

D. The director of Race Relations and/or applicable Race Relations staff will make at least an annual visit to each campus to meet with scholarship recipients to establish a relationship with them and to offer encouragement in their pursuit of academic excellence.



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E. On or before the last day of March in the academic year the scholarship was awarded the academic institution will submit to the Office of Race Relations a report on the scholarship recipient's progress including:

1. A paragraph by each student that indicates his or her vocational direction and development;
2. Current GPA and first semester grades;
3. A report as to the student's active engagement in the ministry of racial reconciliation in church and/or in society; and
4. An evaluation of the student's progress by staff.

V. Application (see separate document)