

## **Are You Called by God for Ministry as a Military Chaplain?**

*The new Church, State, and Industry Foundation (CSIF) wants to support your call financially in accordance with the following goal:*

“To provide encouragement and support to those experiencing a Call from God to serve as a Military Chaplain (in any of the Armed Forces of the United States of America in any status – Active Duty, National Guard, or Reserve) – as qualified clergy (Ministers, Priests, Imams, Rabbis, etc.), particularly by providing financial assistance which will help to ameliorate the financial pressures inherent in meeting the requisite educational requirements for commissioning and service.”

### **CSIF Scholarship Grant/Loans**

#### **Available to Military Chaplain Candidates & New Chaplains**

1. ***Seminary or graduate school grant/loans*** (for full-time students who have already completed one year of full-time studies with a GPA of 2.8 or higher, and who have been granted Chaplain Candidate status in the Air Force, Army, or Navy)
2. ***A Clinical Pastoral Education tuition one-time grant/loan*** (for Chaplain Candidates, as above)
3. ***A one-time grant/loan to help pay seminary indebtedness*** (for Chaplain Candidates who have completed seminary, or newly-accessioned Chaplains who were commissioned on or after

1 January 2017

### **Definition of “Grant/Loan”**

The total amount paid shall be considered a GRANT which does not have to be repaid if the Chaplain Candidate is ultimately endorsed for Chaplaincy and serves as a Military Chaplain for at least as long as his or her initial (or subsequent) military commissioning contract requires. HOWEVER, the grant shall become A REPAYABLE LOAN -- requiring repayment on an established schedule at a contractually-specified rate of interest – if the Chaplain Candidate is not commissioned, or if the Chaplain does not complete his or her military commissioning contract requirements. (Please see the enclosed CSIF Scholarship Goals and Policies attached for details)

### **Established Scholarship Award Limits**

The present established limit of the seminary or graduate school scholarship awards shall be up to a \$5000 lump-sum payment per academic year. Students may apply for a total of three academic years, unless their faith group/denomination requires additional years of graduate school (as a full time student) beyond the three as a requirement for ordination and endorsement, in which case they may apply for the additional year(s). The limits for a grant to be applied to seminary indebtedness by those who have already received their degree and who continue as Chaplain Candidates, or who have been endorsed and newly-commissioned as Chaplains, shall be a one-time grant of up to \$5000. The limits for a tuition scholarship for a Clinical Pastoral Education basic unit shall be up to \$1000.

### **Application Procedures**

In order for an application to be processed by our Grant/Loan Selection Team, the enclosed application and all of the elements specified as a part of the “application package” must be mailed to:

Church, State, and Industry Foundation, P.O. Box 384, West Branch, IA 52358,  
postmarked no later than January 31, 2018.

[Questions may be e-mailed to Chaplain Davison at [info@chaplain-csif.org](mailto:info@chaplain-csif.org)]

*Revised Nov. 2017*

No applications will be accepted before December 15, 2017

**Church, State, and Industry Foundation**  
**Military Chaplain Candidate Scholarships & Educational-Indebtedness-Assistance Fund**  
**Goals and Implementing Policies**

**I. MILITARY CHAPLAIN SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS -- GOALS:**

To provide encouragement and support to those experiencing a Call from God to serve as Military Chaplains, in any of the Armed Forces of the United States of America in any status (Active Duty, National Guard, or Reserve) as qualified clergy (Ministers, Priests, Imams, Rabbis, etc.) -- particularly by providing financial assistance which will help to ameliorate the financial pressures inherent in meeting the requisite educational requirements for commissioning and service.

**II. IMPLEMENTING POLICIES – GRANTS/LOANS:**

**A. GRANTS** -- Such financial support will take the form of GRANTS for educational expenses:

1. Paid directly to a seminary/graduate school, annually, while the Chaplain Candidate is in his or her 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year as a full-time student, in an amount based upon established limits\*, OR
2. Paid as tuition to an institution providing Clinical Pastoral Education (or its equivalent) to a Chaplain Candidate in the event that such training is a pre-ordination and/or endorsement requirement – in an amount within established limits, OR
3. Paid directly to a lender if the newly-accessioned Chaplain or Chaplain Candidate has completed seminary/graduate school requirements, to help pay educational indebtedness – in an amount within established limits.

**B. LOANS** -- The total amount paid shall be considered a GRANT which does not have to be repaid if the Chaplain Candidate is ultimately endorsed for Chaplaincy and serves as a Military Chaplain for at least as long as his or her initial (or subsequent) military commissioning contract requires. HOWEVER, the grant shall become A REPAYABLE LOAN -- requiring repayment on an established schedule at a contractually-specified rate of interest -- IF

1. the Candidate is unable to serve as a Military Chaplain because he or she does not receive (or decides not to apply for) the required Ecclesiastical Endorsement, or
2. the Candidate is unable to serve as a Military Chaplain because he or she fails to meet or maintain physical or other requirements for commissioned service, and/or
3. the Candidate is discharged from commissioned service prior to completing the number of months of service specified by their military contract. HOWEVER:

**C. HARDSHIP** -- if the reasons a Chaplain Candidate cannot be endorsed (or, as a Chaplain, cannot complete the contractual months of service) are reasons beyond the Candidate/Chaplain's control (for example, serious injury, or extreme medical circumstances, or personal circumstances of verifiable hardship IAW Military Hardship Discharge regulations) . . . or in the event of the untimely death of the Candidate / Chaplain – then a request for waiver of repayment can be submitted and, on the basis of appropriate supporting documentation, such request shall be approved.

**D. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY** -- All loan/grants shall be available to any applicant for Military Chaplaincy regardless of race, gender, national origin, faith group, or other discriminators in accordance with the equal opportunity provisions established in the regulations of the branch(s) of service for which the applicant is applying.

**E. ESTABLISHED SCHOLARSHIP AWARD LIMITS** -- The established limits of the scholarship awards shall be up to a \$5000 lump-sum payment per academic year. Students may apply for a total of three academic years, unless their faith group/denomination requires additional years of graduate school (as a full time student) beyond the three as a requirement for ordination and endorsement, in which case they may apply for the additional year(s). The limits for a grant to be applied to seminary indebtedness by those who have already received their degree shall be a one-time grant of up to \$5000. The limits for a tuition scholarship for a Clinical Pastoral Education basic unit shall be up to \$1000. (These limits may be reviewed by the Board of Directors from year to year, and may be modified at the Board's discretion by a majority of those voting.)

## **F. ELIGIBILITY\*--**

4. ***For a seminary or graduate school grant/loan:*** Any student who expresses an interest in Military Chaplaincy, who is in good standing with his or her denominational judicatory, who has been accepted by a seminary/graduate school for a course of study which could lead to ordination and ecclesiastical endorsement for Military Chaplaincy, who has already completed one year of full-time studies, with a GPA of 2.8 or higher, and who has been granted Chaplain Candidate status in the Air Force, Army, or Navy is eligible to apply.
5. ***For a Clinical Pastoral Education tuition grant/loan:*** Any Military Chaplain Candidate for whom a basic unit of CPE is a requirement for ordination and endorsement is eligible to apply.
6. ***For a one-time grant/loan to help pay seminary indebtedness:*** Any seminary/graduate school graduate who is in good standing with his or her denominational judicatory, and who continues as a Chaplain Candidate, or who has been ecclesiastically endorsed, approved, and newly-accessioned (commissioned on or after 1 Jan 2017) as a Military Chaplain is eligible to apply.

## **G. GRANT/LOAN AMOUNTS, AND NUMBER TO BE MADE ANNUALLY --**

The Board of Directors at present has determined that the total value of grant/loans awarded each calendar year may range from 5% to 10% of the fund's invested principal, plus any amounts-from-donors designated for distribution – although the Board of Directors reserves the right to modify this limit by majority vote. Each year, the Board of Directors may review the established scholarship and debt retirement limits prior to publishing an updated application form. At present, these amount limits are as outlined in paragraph II.E above.

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*\*Footnote: The above eligibility requirements are based upon the following assumptions –that every applicant for service as a Military Chaplain is eligible to serve as such only if:*

*+He or she is a fully-ordained clergyperson endorsed for Military Chaplaincy by an official ecclesiastical endorsing agency of his or her denomination or faith-group; and*

*+He or she also meets the educational, physical, age, and other requirements of the branch of military service in which they hope to serve as a commissioned Military Chaplain.*

*visit our website [www.chaplain-csif.org](http://www.chaplain-csif.org)*

*Goals and Policies last updated Nov. 2017*

**Church, State, and Industry Foundation**  
**Chaplain Candidate Seminary Scholarship Application**

Last Name: First: MI:

Address:

City: State: Zip:

Telephone: e-mail:

SSN: Chaplain Candidate Commission Date: Branch of Service:

Denomination or Faith-Group:

Endorsing agency & address:

Seminary / Graduate School and Office of Financial Aid Address:

Expected seminary / graduate degree completion date:

Expected date of full ordination:

Anticipated date of full Ecclesiastical Endorsement:

Marital Status: *single married* Number of non-spousal dependents: \_\_\_\_\_

Educational Indebtedness \$ \_\_ \_\_, \_\_ \_\_ (enclose documentation as required in #4 below.)

GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Please use continuation sheets to answer items 1-3 below**

1. Undergraduate/graduate information [schools & years attended, diplomas/degrees earned]
2. Prior military service and/or experience with the ministry of Military Chaplains.
3. Important factors and income resources related to your need for financial support, including current family situation

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***Please enclose the following items in your application package:***

1. Current official military photograph.
2. Your most recent seminary grade transcript.
3. Four letters of reference: a) from a school official stating that you are enrolled as a full time student; b) from your religious faith group endorser stating your present ecclesiastical endorsement status; c) one letter each from a clergy-person and from a lay-person familiar with your ministry to date.
4. Provide the following financial information: a) total educational indebtedness to date (*Candidate only, not spouse*); b) this school year's tuition, books, & fees total cost; c) this school year's scholarship grants (*not loans*) which will help cover total costs specified in item b.
5. Short essay [max 500 words] on your sense of call to ministry in general, and to pastoral care for military personnel and their families in particular.
6. A short statement on your understanding thus far of ministry in a religiously diverse environment such as the Armed Forces of the United States.
7. A description of your Chaplain Candidate military experiences to date, plus a copy of your most recent military education and/or Chaplain Candidate evaluation report, including height/weight and most recent **PT Test results**.
8. If this application is for CPE Tuition Assistance, please provide documentation from your faith-group judicatory verifying that a basic unit of CPE is required for full ordination and/or ecclesiastical endorsement, plus a statement from your CPE Supervisor that you have been accepted into the program, plus the amount of tuition due.

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***All materials must be postmarked no later than January 31 , 2018 and be mailed to  
Church, State, and Industry Foundation, PO Box 384, West Branch, IA 52358***

**Church, State, and Industry Foundation**  
**Seminary Graduate**

**Chaplain Candidate/Newly-accessioned Chaplain Educational-Indebtedness-Assistance Application**

**Last Name: First: MI:**

**Address:**

**City: State: Zip:**

**Telephone: e-mail:**

**SSN: Chaplain Candidate/Chaplain Commission Date:**

**Branch of Service:**

**Denomination or Faith-Group:**

**Seminary/Graduate School, Graduate Degree, and date degree awarded:**

**Chaplain Status:** *Chaplain Candidate Newly-accessioned Chaplain  
(commissioned on or after 1 Jan 2016)*

**Endorsing agency & address:**

**Date of Ecclesiastical Approval for Chaplain Candidacy:  
or Date of Ecclesiastical Endorsement:**

**Date of full ordination, or anticipated date of full ordination:**

**Educational Indebtedness \$ \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ (enclose documentation as required in #4 below.)**

**Recent GPA**\_\_

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**Use continuation sheets to answer items 1-3 below**

1. Undergraduate/graduate information [schools & years attended, diplomas/degrees earned]
2. Prior military service and/or experience with the ministry of Military Chaplains.
3. Important factors related to your need for financial support, including current family situation and income resources.

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***Please enclose the following items in your application package:***

1. Current official military photograph. If no official photograph is available then a recent snapshot will suffice.
2. Your most recent seminary grade transcript.
3. Four letters of reference: a) from your religious faith group endorser stating your present ecclesiastical endorsement status; b) one letter each from a clergy-person and from a lay-person familiar with your ministry to date; c) from your Chaplain Candidate manager, or Chaplain unit supervisor verifying your current Chaplain status and commenting on your participation in Chaplaincy to date.
4. Provide a report of your total present educational indebtedness, including the terms of all loans which are being repaid, plus the most recent report from each lender indicating the size of payments and the date at which the notes would be repaid under the present schedule of re-payments.
5. Short essay [max 500 words] on your sense of call to ministry in general, and to pastoral care for military personnel and their families in particular.
6. A short statement on your understanding thus far of ministry in a religiously diverse environment such as the Armed Forces of the United States.
7. As a newly-accessioned Chaplain, or continuing Chaplain Candidate: a description of your military experiences to date, including a copy of your most recent military education and/or Chaplain/Chaplain Candidate education/evaluation report—including height/weight and most recent **PT Test results**.

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