

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

Financial Aid Training

Prior to enrolling in their first semester of classes, students who receive any kind of aid from Brite as scholarship or grant, and/or who intend to apply for any Federal Lending program will be required to participate in an online financial literacy training. The details for this program will be managed by the Associate Dean.

Awards and Grants

Through the generosity of dedicated friends of Brite Divinity School, significant awards and grants are available for graduate professional theological education. Awards and grants are dependent upon students making satisfactory academic progress toward degree completion. Students who fail to make satisfactory academic progress may be removed from program.

M.Div. Program

Master of Divinity students who are academically qualified, committed to service, and who show high promise for leadership are eligible for grants through the following awards programs. All awards programs may be adjusted during a student's program based upon a variety of factors, including strength of academic performance and continued demonstration of promise for ministry.

Designated Merit Fellowships provide full tuition and an annual stipend of \$10,000 to highly qualified Master of Divinity students with distinguished academic records and potential for leadership in church and world. Fellowships are renewable for two additional years. Full-time enrollment, maintenance of at least a 3.80 GPA, leadership in the life of the Brite community, and participation in denominational oversight programs related to the student's affiliation are necessary for award continuance.

The Dean's Scholars Program provides that new Master of Divinity students, selected on a competitive basis, may be recognized each year as Dean's Scholars. The awards will provide full tuition and a renewable stipend of \$5,000. In order to be considered for this award an individual should have achieved an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.80, have a previous leadership record, be able to give evidence of promise for ministry, and have an affiliation with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). A personal statement, letters of reference, and personal interview are also required. The tuition award is renewable for a maximum of four years and the stipend for a maximum of three years. Full-time enrollment, maintenance of at least a 3.80 GPA, leadership in the life of the Brite community, and participation in denominational oversight programs related to the student's affiliation are necessary for award continuance.

The Brite Divinity School Scholars Program provides, on a competitive basis, that new Master of Divinity students who hold baccalaureate degrees from TCU may be recognized as Brite Divinity School Scholars. The award will provide full tuition and a renewable stipend of \$5,000. In order to be considered for this award an individual should have achieved a TCU undergraduate GPA of at least 3.80, have a previous leadership record, and be able to give evidence of promise for ministry. A personal statement, letters of reference and personal interview are also required. The tuition award is renewable for a maximum of four years and the stipend for a maximum of three years. Full-time enrollment, maintenance of at least a 3.80 GPA, leadership in the life of the Brite community, and participation in denominational oversight programs related to the student's affiliation are necessary for award continuance.

The Colby D. Hall Awards Program provides, on a competitive basis, awards to new students each year which include full tuition and a renewable stipend of \$2,000. The tuition award is renewable for a maximum of four years and the stipend for a maximum of three years. Consideration for this award requires an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.70, a previous leadership record, and promise for ministry. A personal statement and letters of reference will also be required. Full-time enrollment, maintenance of at least a 3.70 GPA, and participation in denominational oversight programs related to the student's affiliation are conditions for continuance.

The D. Ray Lindley Awards Program provides awards each year to new students which include full tuition plus a renewable stipend of \$1,000. The tuition award is renewable for a maximum of four years and the stipend for a maximum of three years. Awarded on a competitive basis, the D. Ray Lindley program requires an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.60, a previous leadership record, and promise for ministry. A personal statement and letters of reference are also required. Award continuance requires full-time enrollment, the maintenance of at least a 3.60 GPA, and participation in denominational oversight programs related to the student's affiliation.

The Elmer D. Henson Awards Program provides a basic grant to seminarians of anywhere from 50% through 80% (with a limited number equaling 90-100%) of tuition for all required graduate study. Students must have a solid academic record at the baccalaureate level, a previous leadership record, and promise for ministry. Maintenance of a satisfactory academic record at Brite and participation in denominational oversight programs related to the student's affiliation are necessary for award continuance.

M.A.T.M., M.T.S., Th.M., and Certificate Programs

Master of Arts in Theology and Ministry, Master of Theological Studies, Master of Theology, and certificate programs students who are academically qualified, show promise for leadership and service in congregations or within the broader community, and demonstrate financial need are eligible for tuition grants.

For information about Certificate of Theological Studies graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit <http://webforms.tcu.edu/fam/tsc/Gedt.html>.

Doctor of Ministry Program

Doctor of Ministry students are not eligible to receive Brite Divinity School tuition grants.

Ph.D. Program

Students in the Ph.D. program receive tuition grants of 100 percent. In addition, student receive an annual stipend of \$7,000. All awards are based solely on merit and are normally continued for four years. Persons receiving financial awards are expected to be full-time students. "Full-time" for Ph.D. students is defined as a minimum of six hours. Certain students are selected as research assistants to assist faculty members and receive \$1,500 annually for five hours work per week. Brite Divinity School expects a 3.50 grade point average to maintain a student's stipend and a 3.25 grade point average to maintain the tuition award.

Limits of Awards and Grants

Tuition grants are provided for all students through the completion of their regular programs. However, financial aid is limited to three hours beyond the degree requirements in the M.A.T.M., M.T.S., Th.M., and Certificate programs, and is limited to six hours beyond the degree requirements in the M.Div. and Ph.D. programs.

Brite Endowed Scholarships

A number of named scholarships and designated scholarships are assigned each year out of revenue from Brite endowed scholarship funds and ministerial education funds. Special application for these grants and scholarships is not required, since they support the regular financial assistance programs.

Federal, State, and Private Loan Funds

Federal, state and private loans are available for full and part-time students. Some of these loans are available to U.S. citizens or permanent residents only.

Applicants can file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) beginning October 1 of each year for the following academic year. The FAFSA is available at www.fasfa.gov.

In addition to the Federal Stafford Loan Program, graduate students may be eligible for the Federal Graduate PLUS Loan, College Access Loan (state loan) or private education loans. Further information is available at www.financialaid.tcu.edu. Students are encouraged to borrow no more than is absolutely necessary to cover their educational costs.

Citizens of other countries with a qualified U.S. or permanent resident co-signer may be eligible for private student loans. For information on private educational loans go to www.financialaid.tcu.edu – Education Loans – Private Education Loans.

All individuals whose FAFSA is selected for verification will be required to submit appropriate tax information and other documentation as needed to confirm the accuracy of the application. Contact the graduate financial aid adviser in the Office of Scholarships and Student Financial Aid for additional information.

The following Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Policy applies to Brite students receiving state or federal aid (including loans):

- Brite students are subject to the academic performance standards established by the institution. Both qualitative and quantitative measurements are reviewed by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs before certifying continued eligibility in the program.
- Students enrolled in the M.Div., M.T.S., M.A.T.M., and Ph.D. programs are expected to complete all degree requirements within a period of seven years from the date of the earliest credit to be counted on the degree (including transfer credit, if any). Th.M. students must complete all degree requirements within four years and D.Min. students must complete all requirements within six years from the date of the earliest credit to be counted on the degree (including transfer credit, if any). Extension of time must be applied for in writing through the Office of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Students who fail to meet these standards, due to significant extenuating circumstances may appeal for reinstatement of aid eligibility by submitting a request to the financial aid office.

Brite and TCU's SAP policy for graduate students who receive Title IV aid is at least as strict as the standards for students enrolled in the same educational program who are not receiving Title IV aid. See <http://www.financialaid.tcu.edu/satisfactory-academic-progress-policy-for-graduate-and-professional-students/>.

All students are required to maintain certain requirements to receive federal or state financial aid. Credit hours attempted, credit hours completed and GPAs are reviewed by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs to determine whether satisfactory progress is being maintained.

Return of Federal Financial Aid

A student who withdraws from the University before the 60 percent point in the enrollment period (summer, fall or spring) may have to return a pro-rated portion of the financial aid he/she received or that TCU received on his/her behalf. Detailed information about the federal policy on the Return of Title IV Funds is available at www.financialaid.tcu.edu/withdrawal_policy.asp.

Other Scholarships/Loan Funds

Student Assistantships. A limited number of student assistantships are awarded to students who provide assistance to professors or staff with instructional, administrative or research responsibilities. Normally, these assistantships are awarded to full time students. Application may be made through the Office of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Brite Emergency Grants and Loans. Students experiencing unexpected financial hardships may obtain a small grant or short-term loan from funds which have been provided by several dedicated persons and organizations. Arrangements for these grants and loans are made through the Office of the Associate Dean.

Further information on numerous grant and loan sources administered by agencies and organizations outside the Divinity School is available through the Forum for Theological Education at www.fteleaders.org/fundfinder.

Tuition and Fees

The following charges are for the 2018-2019 academic year. Costs are likely to change each year. Current charges are available from the Office of Admissions.

Brite Divinity School tuition in 2018-2019 is \$985 per semester hour for the Masters and Ph.D. programs as well as for students who entered the D.Min. program prior to May 2015. Students entering the D.Min. program in May 2015 or after are charged a program fee of \$13,200. This fee is due in equal installments of \$2200 in May and October for three years. The basic Brite tuition grant under provisions of the Elmer D. Henson Awards program is available to all qualified and admitted students in the Master of Divinity program. That grant normally provides from 50-80 percent of tuition, or, in 2018-2019, \$492.50--\$788 per semester hour. The student's cost is \$197-\$492 per semester hour. Tuition assistance is also available for Master of Arts in Theology and Ministry, Master of Theological Studies, Master of Theology, Certificate of Theological Studies, and other certificate programs. All students admitted to the Doctor of Philosophy program receive full tuition grants for the first four years of study.

NOTE: Tuition grants will be awarded for all the hours required for the student's degree program plus an additional three hours (M.A.T.M., M.T.S., Th.M., C.T.S., and other certificate programs) or six hours (M.Div. and Ph.D.) should a student be required either to repeat courses or to choose to take courses beyond the number required for a degree. For credit hours beyond this limit, the student will be expected to pay full tuition. Ph.D. students are also eligible for remission of audit fees for up to two audit courses. All such courses must be related to the student's program, and must be approved by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Regular Fees (per semester)

Brite Student Government Fee..... \$20

Divinity School Fee (9 or more hours) \$1,100

For part-time students (less than nine semester hours) the Divinity School Fee is \$135 per semester hour and the Brite Student Government Fee is \$10.00.

NOTE: Students should also be prepared, at time of registration, to pay their Health Insurance Premium, if covered through TCU's plan.

Summer School

Tuition is the same as in the fall and spring semesters of the following academic year. The Divinity School Fee is \$135 per semester hour. Tuition grants and awards are available for the summer terms.

Graduation Fees

For M.Div., M.A.T.M., M.T.S., and Th.M. degree candidates\$ 65

For D.Min. degree candidates\$100

For Ph.D. degree candidates..... \$100