

Financial Aid Handbook

2011



*Associated
Mennonite
Biblical
Seminary*

Contact information

For questions about	Contact
General financial aid Stafford loans Scholarships Church matching grant	Financial Aid Office Jody Walker 800-964-2627 ext. 266 574-296-6266 jwalker@ambs.edu
Student billing Payment arrangements Student account charges	Business Office Colleen White 800-964-2627 ext. 226 574-296-6226 cwhite@ambs.edu
FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)	www.fafsa.gov (application) 800-801-0576 (technical questions)
Direct loans Student loan repayment plans Loan forgiveness programs	Department of Education studentloans.gov
Student loan amounts Outstanding student loan balances Student loan statuses Student loan disbursements Exit counseling	The National Student Loan Data System www.nslds.ed.gov

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Financial aid

Principles of financial aid

The following principles serve as guidelines in the administration of the financial aid program:

1. The financial aid program is administered primarily on the basis of demonstrated need, which is defined as the difference between the cost of attending seminary and the amount of personal and other non-seminary resources available to the student. The financial aid application materials attempt to apply a consistent need analysis system to determine need.
2. The student must assume major responsibility in meeting the costs of schooling through savings and other assets, summer and part-time school-year employment (including spouse earnings), family assistance, and grants and loans from congregational, conference, and denominational sources.
3. The total amount of financial assistance offered a student will not exceed the amount of his or her need.

Eligibility

All admitted students are eligible to apply for AMBS financial aid. Financial aid is granted on a year-to-year basis, with reapplication and review each year. Aid is distributed according to demonstrated financial need, with higher amounts of aid given to students with greater need.

Mennonite students and international students studying full time (at least nine credit hours per semester) are eligible for AMBS grants of up to 50 percent of tuition. Other full-time students qualify for grants of up to 25 percent of tuition. All admitted students who are studying part time (fewer than nine credit hours per semester) receive half the amount of financial aid they would qualify for if they were full-time students. Non-admitted students taking one course are not eligible for aid.

Students will receive the same level of aid for intensive courses during Interterm and Summer School that they received during the previous semester. For example, if students taking nine or more hours in the fall (full time) move to less than full time in the spring semester, they will receive the full level of aid for Interterm just as they did during the fall, and they will receive the reduced level of aid from the spring semester for summer courses.

Students should expect to use a portion of their savings to pay the costs of their study. However, home equity and retirement savings will not decrease a student's eligibility for financial aid.

Student responsibilities

1. Apply for aid each year by the financial aid application deadline of **May 1**.
2. Maintain a satisfactory academic standard (minimum GPA of 2.50).
3. Write notes or letters of appreciation to the donors of the funds if requested to do so. AMBS financial aid comes from a variety of sources, including gifts from

churches and individual donors. Acknowledging their generosity helps ensure good relations with our supporters and builds good will toward the seminary.

Types of aid

AMBS grants

AMBS provides some grant assistance for admitted students, based on need as determined by the financial aid application process. These awards are distributed from an AMBS financial aid fund made up of budgeted monies plus earnings from scholarship funds established by generous individuals and organizations.

Matching grant program

AMBS provides grants that match the assistance students receive from their congregations or conferences. The guidelines and eligibility for matching grants are as follows:

- Full-time, admitted students may receive dollar-for-dollar matching grants of up to \$1,500 per regular semester (fall and spring), or \$3,000 per year, and a 25% match on contributions beyond \$1,500 per semester. Matching funds are not granted for courses taken during Interterm or summer sessions. **Matching grants are a part of the student's AMBS financial aid package and may be capped when AMBS grant totals meet the maximum amount that the student is qualified to receive.**
- Part-time, admitted students may receive a 25% matching grant to a maximum of \$125 per regular semester (fall and spring).
- One-course, non-admitted students are not eligible to receive AMBS matching grants.

IMPORTANT

1. Incomplete forms will not be processed.
2. Church contributions (checks/money orders) should be payable to AMBS with the student's name included in the "memo" portion or check stub.
3. Matching funds will not be applied to the student's account until funds are received from the church or conference.
4. Students must pay their balance in full by the first day of classes, so it is preferable that church contributions are also received by this time. However, if a church partnership form has been received for a student, he/she will not be assessed a late fee for the expected funds and respective matching grants until October 1 (for fall semester contributions) and March 1 (spring semester contributions). If committed funds are not received by the respective dates, the student will be assessed a late fee of \$25 and held responsible for paying their outstanding balance. **Church/conference contributions received after a semester has ended will not be matched.**

Full-tuition scholarships

AMBS offers two types of full-tuition scholarships: **Church Leadership awards** and **Next Generation scholarships**. Recipients of these scholarships will be Mennonites who are members in good standing of a congregation in Mennonite Church Canada, Mennonite Church USA or a related Mennonite group. The decision to award a grant will be based on four factors:

1. Previous academic performance, based on information gained from transcripts and references including a minimum GPA of 3.5.
2. Leadership potential and demonstrated skills, based on information gained from references.
3. Personal character and emotional health, based on information gained from references
4. Recipients will be new students who have not been previously enrolled in AMBS courses.

The following understandings apply to the recipients of the **Church Leadership awards** and **Next Generation scholarships**:

1. Recipients will be enrolled as full-time students (full-time is defined as nine credit hours or more per semester plus one short-term course during Interterm or the summer).
2. Students in the M.Div. program are eligible to receive the award for three (3) years. Students in an M.A. program are eligible to receive the award for two (2) years.

(Note: to finish a degree in the allotted timeframe a student must complete a minimum of 30 credit hours per year, which generally consists of 12 hours per semester plus a short-term course during Interterm and another short-term course in the summer.)

3. Eligibility from year to year will be based on satisfactory progress toward the completion of the degree, including:
 - Maintaining a 3.0 GPA
 - Continuing as a full-time student
 - Supporting and adhering to AMBS community life standards
 - Assuming leadership responsibilities on the AMBS campus
 - Recipients of the Next Generation Scholarship are required to live in AMBS campus housing in order to receive the living stipend of \$4,000/year
4. Recipients will not be eligible for need-based AMBS grants, including AMBS matching grants, in addition to the full-tuition award.

Church Leadership Award—Application deadline: Feb. 1

The Church Leadership Award is a scholarship program intended to encourage and support outstanding Mennonite students with gifts for ministry as they prepare to serve the church. This award provides a full-tuition grant to a new student beginning a Master's program. The recipient may receive this grant for two or three years by meeting certain conditions. Awards are available based upon prior recipient's graduation.

Next Generation Scholarships—Application deadline: Feb. 1

- The Earl and Florence Schlegel Next Generation Scholarship
- The Werner K. Fransen Next Generation Scholarship

The Next Generation Scholarship is a scholarship program intended to encourage and support outstanding Mennonite students with gifts in church leadership. This scholarship provides a full-tuition grant and a stipend for living expenses up to \$4,000 each year to a new student beginning the Master of Divinity program. The recipient may receive this scholarship for three years by meeting certain conditions. Awards are available based upon prior recipient's graduation.

Special scholarships—Application deadline: Feb. 1

Special scholarships may be awarded each year to students who met eligibility requirements for and applied to receive either a Church Leadership award or Next Generation scholarship but were not selected by the scholarship committee as a recipient of either. This award provides a grant of 60% of tuition to a beginning student in a master's program. The recipient may receive this grant for two or three years by meeting certain conditions.

The following understandings apply to the recipients of special scholarships:

1. Recipients will be enrolled as full-time students (full-time is defined as nine credit hours or more per semester plus one short-term course during Interterm or the summer).
2. Students in the M.Div. program are eligible to receive the award for three (3) years. Students in an M.A. program are eligible to receive the award for two (2) years.

(Note: to finish a degree in the allotted timeframe a student must complete a minimum of 30 credit hours per year, which generally consists of 12 hours per semester plus a short-term course during Interterm and another short-term course in the summer.)

3. Eligibility from year to year will be based on satisfactory progress toward the completion of the degree, including:
 - Maintaining a 3.0 GPA
 - Continuing as a full-time student
 - Supporting and adhering to AMBS community life standards
4. Recipients will not be eligible for need-based AMBS grants, including AMBS matching grants, in addition to the special scholarship award.

Other scholarships—Application deadline: May 1

Multicultural scholarships. Multicultural scholarships are available annually for students (of any race) who are preparing to minister in a racial/ethnic context and who will contribute to the multicultural ethos of the church. AMBS will give priority to students identified by the AMBS Mission Studies Center in dialogue with Mennonite church mission and service agencies and partners. Scholarships of varying amounts are given in addition to need-based AMBS grants each year.

International students. International students from outside North America qualify for need-based AMBS grants. Students with endorsement and financial support of a Mennonite-related sponsoring agency receive some additional tuition assistance. All international students are required to provide documentation of their educational, living, and travel expenses.

The Steiner Bivocational Scholarship. The Steiner Bivocational Scholarship is intended to assist people annually who are training for bivocational ministry or who are pastors coming from a situation where they combined their congregational ministry with other employment. Award amounts vary from year to year. Full- or part-time students are welcome to apply.

MCEC/AMBS Study Fund. The MCEC/AMBS Study Fund is used to assist a pastor/student from the Mennonite Conference of Eastern Canada who needs approximately one year of residency to complete a degree at AMBS. Award amount may vary from year to year, and priority will be given to pastors/students entering into their last year of study.

The Jacob Andres Achievement Award. This award is designated for a student from one of the four western provinces of Canada entering the second or subsequent year of studies who exhibits academic excellence and a positive Christian character. Award amounts vary from year to year.

Mission-Evangelism Scholarships. These scholarships are available annually to international students who are sent to AMBS by their home churches with a commitment to return to their home countries and who have additional church agency support. AMBS will give priority to students identified by the AMBS Mission Studies Center in dialogue with Mennonite Church mission and service agencies and partners. Up to three scholarships of \$5,000 (in addition to need-based AMBS grants) may be available each year.

Congregational and conference aid

Many conferences and congregations have loan, forgivable loan, and/or scholarship programs. Students should check with their respective conference and congregational leaders. Canadian students from Mennonite Church Canada are encouraged to contact the Company of 1,000, Mennonite Church Canada, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg, MB, R3P 0M4, for information on aid. (*See also p. 14.*)

Student employment

The seminary has a limited number of part-time jobs available on campus. Employment cannot be guaranteed, but such work as is available will be open for students who apply. To apply for campus employment, please check the job postings and submit an application on the AMBS Web site at www.ambs.edu/employment/student-employment

Students who are not citizens of the United States and who enter the country on a student visa are restricted from some types of employment by regulation of the U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS). Full-time students with F-1 or J-1 status may hold part-time jobs on campus during the school year (and full-time jobs during the summer), but may not be employed off-campus. Spouses on an F-1 visa may not be employed. Spouses of students on a J-1 visa may apply to the Immigration Service for a work permit if financial need exists.

Government loans

Students who are U.S. citizens may participate in the Department of Education's Direct Loan (Stafford) program. AMBS also is registered with Canadian Provincial Loan programs, making Canadian students eligible for Canada Student Loans. These government programs allow students to secure low-interest loans that are deferred while the students are enrolled in school. See the **Student loans** section for more information.

Other sources of aid

Make every effort to be aware of outside scholarships available to graduate students. Check out local service organizations' scholarships as well as local community foundations for additional sources of assistance. A few sources to consider:

- The Elkhart County Community Foundation (Jane Fryer McConaughy Memorial Scholarship): www.elkhartccf.org
- The Fund for Theological Education: www.thefund.org/fundfinder
- USA Funds: www.usafunds.org

Effects of financial aid on U.S. income tax

The U.S. Internal Revenue Code states that individuals who are candidates for a degree may exclude scholarship income from their gross income. This is true as long as the amount excluded does not exceed the cost of tuition, fees, books, and supplies required for the student's course of study. Any payment for which services are required is taxable. This could include student assistantships and on-campus jobs. (Ref: TITLE26, Subtitle A, CHAPTER 1, Subchapter B, PART III, Sec. 117). Please consult your tax adviser for details.

Application procedures

Deadlines

All students requesting financial aid must submit the appropriate financial aid application by **May 1** to receive the maximum amount for which they qualify. Applications received after **May 1** will be processed in light of remaining funds. Persons planning to enroll mid-year are encouraged to submit their application by **May 1**.

Please complete each item within the financial aid application. Incomplete applications will not be processed nor marked as submitted until complete.

Please note: Students applying for the **Next Generation Scholarship** or **Church Leadership Award** must complete and submit their completed application by the submission deadline of **Feb. 1**.

How to apply—U.S. students

1. U.S. students must complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) after Jan. 1. Doing this by April 30 will allow sufficient time for data to be returned to the AMBS financial aid office by the May 1 financial aid application deadline. Students may complete the FAFSA online at the FAFSA web site: www.fafsa.gov. The following information is needed to complete the application:

Federal school code: 001823

School name: Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary

School address: 3003 Benham Avenue, Elkhart, IN 46517

As an independent student, you do not need to complete the parent(s) sections on the form.

2. If students will receive financial assistance from conferences and/or congregations, they must complete the Church Partnership Form, have it signed appropriately and submit it to the Financial Aid office by the May 1 deadline.
3. Students receiving outside aid and/or scholarships are required to submit documentation of these awards to the financial aid office by the May 1 deadline.
4. Financial aid award letters will be sent out by the AMBS financial aid office to inform students of their financial aid for the next year.
5. Students must sign and return their award letters by Aug. 1 in order to receive awarded aid.

How to apply—Canadian and international students

1. Canadian and International students must complete and return the AMBS financial aid application by May 1 to receive the maximum amount of financial aid for which they qualify.
2. If students will receive financial assistance from conferences and/or congregations, they must complete the Church Partnership Form, have it signed appropriately and submit it to the Financial Aid office by the May 1 deadline.
3. Financial aid award letters will be sent out by the AMBS financial aid office to inform students of their financial aid for the next year.
4. Students must sign and return their award letters by Aug. 1 in order to receive awarded aid.

International students (including Canadians) are required to provide documentation of their educational, living, and travel expenses.

Student loans

U.S. Federal Stafford Loans (Direct loans from the Dept. of Education)

AMBS participates in the Department of Education's Direct Loan (Stafford) program. Both subsidized (need-based) and unsubsidized (non-need-based) Stafford loans are available up to federal limits. We encourage students to explore all other sources of funding before applying for a Stafford loan.

The maximum amount allowed by the federal government is \$20,500 per year, depending upon other resources and your FAFSA results. The maximum subsidized Stafford loan amount a student may receive per academic year is \$8,500, or up to the level of demonstrated need (if less than \$8,500).

General information

Subsidized Stafford Loans: Need-based (meaning they're reserved for students who need help the most) loans guaranteed by the government. The federal government pays the interest on subsidized Stafford loans while the student is enrolled in school at least half time, during a six-month grace period after leaving school, and during any periods of deferment. After that, interest is charged at a fixed rate of 6.8 percent (if loan was disbursed on or after July 2, 2006).

Unsubsidized Stafford Loans: Non-need-based loans guaranteed by the government and available to all eligible students, regardless of family income or financial need. The student is responsible for paying the interest on unsubsidized loans as soon as the funds are disbursed. AMBS recommends students pay the interest while enrolled in school, but students may choose to have the interest capitalized (added to the loan principal) to be paid later.

Repayment: Generally, repayment of a Stafford loan occurs after a borrower graduates or ceases to be enrolled in school at least half time. Repayment options vary, so students should find an option that best meets their needs. The standard repayment term is 10 years.

Minimizing student loan debt: Before applying for a student loan, consider how you might reduce expenses by living simply and eliminating optional expenses from your budget. Additionally, it is in your best interest to exhaust all other options for financing your education with money which does not have to be repaid. If need still exists, a student loan may be a resource for you to close the gap. Student loans must be paid back, so please be certain to limit your borrowing to an amount which can be comfortably repaid with your intended profession.

Eligibility

1. Student must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen. See: www.studentaid.ed.gov
2. Student must be enrolled at least half-time (6 credit hours) per regular semester in a degree program.
3. Student must maintain satisfactory academic progress and be enrolled in a degree-seeking program.
4. Student must not be in default on any Federal Student Aid loan or owe an overpayment on any FSA loan or grant.
5. Student must not have borrowed in excess of loan limits set by federal authorities.

Borrower's rights and responsibilities

Students have the right to:

- Receive written information on their loan obligations, including their options for loan consolidation and refinancing.
- Receive a copy of their promissory note.
- Receive, prior to repayment, a repayment schedule and detailed information about interest rates, the balance they owe, and the repayment options available to them.
- Receive written notification from their lender if their loan is sold or transferred.
- Repay all or part of their loan at any time without penalty.
- A grace period after they leave school or drop to less than half-time status and before they begin repayment.

- Temporarily defer their monthly payments if they meet federal requirements.
- Receive a temporary period of suspended payments if they meet their loan holder's forbearance criteria.

Students have the responsibility to:

- Repay their loan(s) even if they do not complete their program, are unable to find employment after graduation, or are dissatisfied with or feel they did not receive the educational services they purchased from the school.
- Attend exit counseling before they graduate or withdraw from school.
- Notify their loan holder promptly if they change their name, address or phone number, graduate, transfer or withdraw from school, or change their anticipated graduation date.
- Read and retain all of their financial aid and loan documents for future reference.

Application process

1. Submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) online at **www.fafsa.gov** and answer "yes" to the question that asks whether you would like to be considered for student loans.
2. Determine how much you need to borrow, based on eligibility guidelines and certification from AMBS.
3. Complete entrance counseling if, as an AMBS student, you are borrowing for the first time.
4. Complete an online MPN (Master Promissory Note). The MPN is a legal contract that obligates you to repay a Stafford loan and details the terms and conditions of the loan.
5. After your loan is processed, the Department of Education sends the money directly to AMBS. Funds are credited to your student account, and any money left over from paying the costs owed to AMBS may be available to you (upon your written request) to pay for other expenses related to your education.
6. Save your paperwork; you may need it later.

Disbursement of Stafford loan funds and refund of credit balances

By law, Stafford loans are disbursed in two equal amounts. For students enrolled for a full academic year, 50 percent of the loan disbursement is scheduled near the start of the first semester and the remaining 50 percent is scheduled near the start of spring semester. For students enrolled in only one semester, disbursements may be scheduled near the start of the semester (50 percent) and soon after the midpoint of the semester (50 percent).

Your Stafford loan disbursements are disbursed electronically, directly to AMBS. Your disbursement dates reflect the current record of your registration (or projected registration) and may change in the event that your actual enrollment changes.

You will receive a memo from the financial aid office when your loan disbursement is received at AMBS. You have the right to cancel all or a portion of your loan within 14 days of disbursement. To cancel your loan, contact the Financial Aid Officer.

You have the authority to indicate whether or not AMBS can use your Federal Stafford loan proceeds to pay charges other than tuition and mandatory fees.

You will be asked to sign an authorization statement indicating your preference. Regardless of your choice, you will be responsible for payment of any outstanding balance on your student account. Students with excess funds on their account may request the remaining amount to be remitted to them by check. Students must request refunds by Tuesday at noon to receive funds by Thursday of the same week. Funds requested after the Tuesday deadline will be disbursed the following Thursday. **By law, AMBS may not release Stafford loan-caused credit balances to a student each semester until he or she has begun attending classes.**

Changing the amount of your loan

If you discover you have borrowed too much or too little for your needs in an academic year, you can request to change the amount of your federal Stafford loan. Please contact the Financial Aid Office for a request form. You will be notified by the Financial Aid Officer when your request has been processed.

Effects of other resources on student loan eligibility

Your loan eligibility is calculated based on all the information available at the time of certification. If you receive assistance from additional sources during the academic year, your loan eligibility may be affected and adjustments may be made to your Stafford loan amounts. It is the student's responsibility to notify the Financial Aid Officer of any new or additional financial resources that are received/awarded after the financial aid application has been completed. AMBS must, by law, recalculate the student's loan eligibility and return any over-award to the lender. You will receive a notice from the Financial Aid Officer if your loans are adjusted and instructions if it is necessary for you to take action.

Enrollment status changes

It is the student's responsibility to notify the financial aid office any time his or her enrollment status changes. AMBS will notify the NSLDS (National Student Loan Data System) within 30 days of a student's withdrawal, graduation, or drop below half-time (6 credit hours) status.

Policies on financial aid disbursement and withdrawals from study

- An official withdrawal occurs only upon written notice to the registrar.
- Students who have completed the financial aid process will have their financial aid disbursed on a regular schedule. Balance of aid refunds will be issued to students after the financial aid is disbursed to their student accounts.
- Students who have attended any classes during the first two weeks of the semester will be considered as enrolled on the census date. Aid will be disbursed based on actual number of credit hours of classes attended.
- Students who have attended no classes during this period and have not paid fees will have their records purged.
- Enrollment status will be verified for all students after the close of registration, based on the final course rosters that the registrar receives from faculty.
- Students who subsequently discontinue enrollment without officially withdrawing from AMBS will be considered to be unofficially withdrawn. This will be determined at the end of the semester by grades of NC.

Deferment of previous student loans

To request an in-school deferment of previous Stafford loans, obtain an in-school deferment form from your lender and submit it to the AMBS registrar's office. You must be enrolled at least half-time to defer prior loans.

Satisfactory academic progress/Academic progress appeals

Financial aid recipients at AMBS are expected to maintain satisfactory academic progress, which is evaluated after each semester. Students must be making satisfactory progress to continue receiving financial aid.

Students must satisfy all three of the components that define satisfactory academic progress:

- Complete at least 70 percent of the courses they attempt.
- Have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- Complete the degree program in no more than 150 percent of the time published as the expected length of study time for the program

If a student fails to make satisfactory academic progress or is on academic probation, he or she may continue to receive AMBS financial aid (grants) and/or Stafford loans on an appeal basis. Appeals are reviewed and approved by the financial aid officer in consultation with the student's adviser and the academic dean. A student may be granted an appeal only once, and progress is subject to review every semester thereafter.

Return of funds policy for Stafford loan (Title IV Funds) borrowers

For Stafford loan borrowers, return of Title IV funds will be determined according to federal guidelines. If a student has completed more than 60 percent of the payment period, the student is considered to have earned 100 percent of the Title IV aid awarded for the payment period. In this case, no funds need to be returned to the Title IV aid programs. If a student withdraws before completing more than 60 percent of the payment period, the amount of any Title IV loan aid the student received for the period must be recalculated to reflect the portion of the period completed prior to withdrawal. The unearned Title IV loan aid for the percentage of the payment period not completed must be returned to the applicable program, in the following order:

1. Direct unsubsidized Stafford loans (other than PLUS loans)
2. Direct subsidized Stafford loans

The student will be responsible for payment of any outstanding balance on his/her student account that this return of funds may create.

Canada Student Loans

Canada Student Loans, funded by the government of Canada and administered with participating provinces, are available to Canadian citizens enrolled in full-time study. Repayment is deferred while full-time status is maintained. Canadian students may contact their local banks for information. AMBS is registered with the provincial administrative offices for enrollment for students with Canada Student Loans.

Terms related to student loans

Award letter: An official document issued by the school's Financial Aid Office that lists all of the financial aid awarded to the student. This letter provides the breakdown of your financial aid package according to amount, source and type of aid. The award letter will include the terms and conditions for the financial aid. You are required to sign a copy of the letter, indicating whether you accept or decline each source of aid, and return it to the Financial Aid Office.

Capitalization: The process of adding unpaid interest charges to the principal balance of an educational loan, instead of paying the interest when it is due. Capitalizing the interest increases the monthly payment and the amount of money you will eventually have to repay. If you can afford to pay the interest as it accrues, you are better off not capitalizing it.

Consolidation loan: A loan that combines several student loans into one bigger loan from a single lender. The consolidation loan is used to pay off the balances on the other loans.

Default: A loan is in default when the borrower fails to pay several regular installments on time (i.e., payments overdue by 180 days) or otherwise fails to meet the terms and conditions of the loan.

Deferment: Occurs when a borrower is allowed to postpone repaying the loan. If you don't qualify for a deferment, you may be able to get forbearance. You can't get a deferment if your loan is in default.

Enrollment status: An indication of whether you are a full-time or part-time student. You must be enrolled at least half time to qualify for federal financial aid.

Expected Family Contribution (EFC): The amount of money that the family is expected to be able to contribute to the student's education, as determined by the Federal Methodology need analysis formula approved by Congress.

Forbearance: A permitted suspension or reduction of student loan payments under certain circumstances and for specified periods of up to one year at a time.

Guarantor: An agency responsible for approving student loans and insuring them against default. Guarantee agencies also oversee the student loan process and enforce federal and state rules regarding student loans.

Interest: Amount charged to the borrower for the privilege of using the lender's money.

LStudent Aid Report (SAR), your SAR has been selected for verification. Schools may select additional students for verification if they suspect fraud. Some schools undergo 100 percent verification.

If any discrepancies are uncovered during verification, the financial aid office may require additional information to clear up the discrepancies. Such discrepancies may cause your final financial aid package to be different from the initial package described on the award letter you received from the school. If you refuse to submit the required documentation, your financial aid package will be cancelled and no aid awarded.

For a more complete glossary of terms, see www.finaid.org/questions/glossary.phtml.

Special funds for Canadian students

- **Mennonite Church Canada: Company of 1,000**
A scholarship fund managed by Mennonite Church Canada
Sven Eriksson
Mennonite Church Canada
600 Shaftesbury Blvd.
Winnipeg, MB R3P 0M4
204-888-6781
office@mennonitechurch.ca
- **Canadian Women in Mission: Spiritual Growth Assistance Fund**
A scholarship fund for women studying in church schools (Apply by May 1)
Erna Neufeldt
53 Shaftesbury Ave.
Toronto, ON M4T 3B3
neufeldte@yahoo.com
- **Mennonite Church British Columbia**
Pastors bursaries
MCBC
304-32025 George Ferguson Way
Abbotsford, BC V2T 2K7
604-850-6658
admin@mcbbc.ca
- **Mennonite Church Alberta**
A scholarship fund for students enrolled in church schools
MCA Student Assistance Committee
c/o Vincent Friesen
11764-35 Ave
Edmonton AB T6J 2W2
403-275-6935
info@mennonitechurch.ab.ca
- **Mennonite Church Saskatchewan Christian Education Commission**
Student Education Fund Scholarship
MCS
116 La Ronge Rd
Saskatoon SK S7K 8E5
306-249-4844
office@mcsask.ca
- **Mennonite Church Manitoba**
 - *Abram G. Neufeld Scholarship Fund: For people with Manitoba connections preparing for pastoral or missionary training*
 - *Johann Funk Memorial Fund: No-interest loans for students pursuing ministry training, up to \$1,500 per year to a maximum of \$3,000*
Director of Leadership Ministries
MCM
200-600 Shaftesbury Blvd.
Winnipeg, MB R3P 2J1
204-896-1616
office@mennochurch.mb.ca
- **Mennonite Church Eastern Canada Seminary Student Aid Fund**
Scholarships and loans through the Pastoral Leadership Training Commission
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Frequently asked questions

How am I expected to contribute to the cost of my education?

Students at AMBS assume major responsibility in meeting the costs of their schooling through savings and other assets, employment (including spouse earnings), and grants or loans. We encourage students to explore all the possibilities for support and offer counsel about sources of support.

My church has agreed to help pay part of my tuition. What do I have to do to qualify for a church matching grant?

Congregations and conferences often contribute to the cost of students' study at AMBS. In order to qualify for a church matching grant, you and your church must complete the Church Partnership Form and submit it to the financial aid office **no later than May 1**, with your financial aid application. Contributions must be received by **Sept. 10** for the fall semester and by **Feb. 10** for the spring semester in order for matching funds to be applied. **ALL CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO AMBS, WITH THE STUDENT'S NAME EARMARKED ON THE CHECK.**

Church contributions are a part of a student's overall financial aid package, and will be included in the Stafford loan certification calculation.

I received my financial aid award letter in the summer for the upcoming academic year. I don't plan to enroll in classes until the spring semester. Will I still receive the awarded financial aid?

It depends. In order to receive the financial aid you have been awarded, a signed copy of your financial aid award letter must be received by the deadline included in your award letter. You may receive the aid if you return your letter on time, but only for the portion of time you are enrolled.

I am Canadian. How will my need be determined?

All Canadian students applying for financial aid are asked to complete the AMBS financial aid application by **May 1**. Eligibility for financial aid is determined from calculations on this form. The student's demonstrated need is the difference between the official cost of attendance and the expected contribution of the individual/family. An owned primary residence is not included in the assessment of resources available.



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