

## **Selection Committee Guidelines for Lutheran/Divinity Educational Student Scholarships**

These guidelines are used for choosing Lutheran/Divinity Educational Student Scholarship recipients from the South-Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Organization (SWO). **It is the desire of the Selection Committee to use these guidelines to extend financial assistance to a range of recipients across all churches in the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin.** Two educational scholarships that are not gender specific will be given to students who are pursuing education in Called Ministry (such as Pastor, Diaconal Minister) or Youth Ministry in a congregation or ELCA Bible Camp Ministry. Two (2) scholarships of \$500 each are awarded for the current or upcoming academic year. The student must be enrolled as a student to be eligible. The Selection Committee will also look at a student's need for the scholarship and current academic standing. The guidelines are not listed in priority or one more definitive than another in deciding who would get a scholarship.

The Selection Committee will consist of 3 members, one SWO Board member and two non-board members from South-Central Synod of Wisconsin churches. So there is no conflict of interest, such as and not limited to someone related to or knows well any applicant, the Selection committee should not include ministers or lay ministers.

- Applications **must** be postmarked or emailed by the due date. No late applications will be considered for a scholarship.
- Scholarship recipients must be students who are pursuing education in Called Ministry (such as Pastor, Diaconal Minister) or Youth Ministry in a congregation or ELCA Bible Camp Ministry.
- The Selection Committee will review the financial need of the student.
- Scholarship recipients will be chosen from across the conference and churches of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin. The preference is to have scholarship recipients be one per church.
- The applicant's involvement in church life and community activities will be taken into consideration for the scholarship.
- The Selection Committee will review the courses the student will take in the upcoming school year for relevancy to the purpose of this scholarship and the ministry they are pursuing.
- The Selection Committee will review the reference letter sent on behalf of the student to determine "the good standing" of the applicant.
- The Selection Committee will also review a list of past Scholarship recipients when selecting new recipients to "spread" the financial assistance to a wider range of recipients.

**The scholarship money will be paid to the recipient when documentation is received by the Selection Committee on the successful completion of the semester within 60 days of the completion of the semester.**