

Bethany UMC Student Ministries Missions Scholarship Guidelines

(Revised October 27, 2011)

Bethany Youth Ministries values mission and service. We appreciate the opportunity to offer these experiences to all of the youth of Bethany. We also honor our responsibility to be good stewards of the limited resources of BUMC Student Ministries. The following guidelines are intended to provide a procedure for consideration of scholarship requests for any of the Student Ministries summer trips including VBS-Brownsville, Mountain TOP, Middle School Mission by the Sea, UM Army, Middle School BASIC, UM Army, the PureSound Choir Tour and any other domestic youth mission that may be scheduled or coordinated by the Student Ministries Missions Coordinating Team. Scholarships are not available for international Student Ministries mission trips.

- Fundraising Opportunities: BUMC offers a number of fundraisers through which the youth of BUMC can raise funds to be applied toward the cost of youth missions. There are generally 5 or 6 fundraisers offered per year through which youth can earn funds for youth mission purposes and youth and their families seeking additional financial resources are encouraged to participate fully in these opportunities and to make fundraising the primary resource for youth seeking financial assistance.
- Scholarship Availability: Scholarships to be applied toward the cost of youth missions will be available in very limited circumstances resulting from severe and unexpected financial constraints related to recent job loss, medical conditions, family transitions or other extraordinary circumstances generally out of the control of the youth and his or her immediate family.
- Parent/Guardian Certification: To be eligible to receive a scholarship, a parent or financial guardian of the youth must certify that the youth and his or her family have used all other reasonable means to raise the necessary funds including full participation in the BUMC-sponsored Fundraising Opportunities.
- Scholarship Requests: Scholarship requests are to be made via email or in person with the BUMC Director of Student Ministries. A request is not a guarantee of scholarship funds.
- Scholarship Review Committee: There will be a Scholarship Review Committee constituted as required. The committee will consist of the BUMC Director of Student Ministries, the BUMC Student Ministries Mission Coordinator and at least 2 additional members selected by the BUMC Director of Student Ministries.
- Review Process: The Scholarship Review Committee will conduct a timely review of scholarship requests. All requests and the information related thereto will be kept completely confidential within the Review Committee. The Review Committee will determine, in its sole discretion, the amount, if any, of the scholarship to be awarded in keeping with these guidelines. Youth requesting a scholarship will be notified as soon as is practical following the Review Committee's decision.