CERTIFICATION RENEWAL FORM

Ministerial Financial Assistance for
Students Preparing for a Church-Related Vocation

Baptist General Convention of Texas

Pastor or Church Leader and Student,

Each applicant to the Ministerial Financial Assistance program of the Baptist General Convention of Texas (BGCT), must **annually** reaffirm their call to church-related vocational ministry **and** furnish evidence, by way of written testimony of the pastor (or church leader) of the student's involvement with, support of, and commitment to a local cooperating BGCT church.

The forms below (***student*** and ***pastor/church leader***) will provide the necessary evidence.

In providing this evidence, the church commits their support, along with other BGCT churches, to this ministry student.

Thank you for honoring this sacred trust.

The Theological Education Council, BGCT

TEXAS ★ BAPTISTS
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS

To be completed by STUDENT

STUDENT COVENANT

Whereas *Texas Baptist* churches have committed their cooperative missions funds to providing financial assistance to men and women who are preparing for ministry vocations in the church and,

Whereas *Texas Baptist* universities have committed to providing theological education that prepares students for vocations in church-related ministries and,

Whereas I have sensed the call of God in my life to prepare for a vocation in a church-related ministry (such as pastor, church staff, missionary, chaplain);

I hereby enter into a covenant relationship with the churches of the *Baptist General Convention of Texas* to honor the sacred trust they have placed in me through their financial support and,

Should I come to a point in my understanding of God's will for my life that I no longer sense a call to a church-related vocation,

I will immediately inform university officials and no longer accept this financial assistance provided by the churches of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

_____ _____

(Student Signature) (Date)

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STUDENT INFORMATION SECTION

Name:_____

Email:_____

Name of Church:_____

Permanent Address:

Street:_____

City, State, Zip: _____

Name of School: _____

To be completed by STUDENT

During the preceding academic year I have been involved with, supportive of, and committed to the ministries of this BGCT church in the following ways:

Paid leadership responsibilities: _____

_____

_____

Volunteer leadership or service: _____

_____

_____

Other involvement or means of support:_____

_____

_____

Sign the following reaffirmation, give this form to your pastor or church leader to complete *(pages 3-4)*, then return the completed forms along with any other materials required by your institution:

I hereby reaffirm my covenant with the churches, my sense of calling to a church-related vocation and my desire to continue to receive the Ministerial Financial Assistance provided by the churches of the Baptist General Convention of Texas; and I promise to remain in compliance with the requirements of the BGCT and this partner institution.

Student's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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To be completed by PASTOR OR CHURCH LEADER

CHURCH CERTIFICATION SECTION

(Check ✓ and complete the appropriate sections below)

☐ **Statement of Certification:**

If the church has not ordained or licensed this student, the following statement must be affirmed by the congregation.

We hereby certify that _____
(name of student)

- ***is involved with, supportive of, and committed to the ministries of this BGCT church***
- ***has shown evidence of a divine call to church-related vocational ministry***
- ***has shown sincere commitment to a career in church-related ministry***
- ***has demonstrated a Christian life-style***
- ***is the kind of person our church would be comfortable recommending as a minister to serve in a church-related vocational position***

☐ This congregation affirmed this student's involvement in our church as noted on page 2 of the form. This congregational certification has been acted upon by:

(check all that apply)

☐ Ordination of student on _____.
(date)

☐ Licensing of student on _____.
(date)

☐ Adoption of statement of certification above by congregation on _____.
(date)

☐ Adoption of statement of certification above by others (specify below) representing the congregation on _____.
(date)

Representing the congregation:

☐ Church Committee
☐ Deacons
☐ Elders or other governing board
☐ Council of church staff members
☐ Other *(please describe):* _____
_____
_____
_____

☐ I have talked with this student to discuss (1) the student's sense of call to church-related vocational ministry and (2) ways that the student might be involved in service at our church.

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☐ I affirm this student's certification renewal application for Ministerial Financial Assistance.

Pastor's or Church Leader's Name (Printed) _____

Position at Church _____

Telephone Number _____

Signature _____

Date _____

CHURCH INFORMATION SECTION

Church Name and Address

Name of Church: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Denominational Affiliations

Baptist association _____ City, State _____

Baptist state convention _____

Baptist affiliations, national _____

Signed: _____
(Pastor or church approved leader if student is pastor)

Signed: _____
(Church Clerk)