

**Louisiana Conference Board of Ordained Ministry**  
**Division of Elders**  
**Policy Number 201**  
**Seminary Student Service Loans**

Persons who are certified candidates for ordained ministry, have chosen the elder track, are enrolled in a University Senate approved seminary (full-time or part-time) and are able to render a minimum of 10 years of full time active service to the Louisiana Conference after commissioning may receive the current funding rate of \$200.00 per semester hour per semester. These funds are currently matched by a grant from the United Methodist Foundation of Louisiana.

The maximum amount of funding per certified candidate from the CBOM MEF monies will be \$17,500.00. These funds are currently being matched by a grant from the United Methodist Foundation of Louisiana to make the total maximum amount of funding available to each certified candidate for ordained ministry to be \$35,000.00.

Seminary funding is awarded in the form of a loan to be repaid by five years of service in the Louisiana Conference and is made subject to the availability of funds.

The Conference Board of Ordained Ministry will not fund a certified candidate for Basic Course of Study School and Advanced Theological Courses (seminary work) in the same Conference year unless it is the year the candidate completes the Basic Course of Study.

The Conference Board of Ordained Ministry will provide Seminary Student Service Loans to certified candidates who have completed the Basic Course of Study and who want to take the 32 hours of Advanced Theological Education that are needed to be considered for the Elder's Orders track.

Since 32 hours of Advanced Theological Education is one third of a Master of Divinity degree, the seminary student service loan cap for this area is \$6,400.00, which may be matched by the United Methodist Foundation of Louisiana to make the total maximum amount of funding \$12,800.00, one third of the amount for people working toward a full Master of Divinity degree.

**Policy adopted by the Division of Elders on November 28, 2005**

**Policy approved by the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry on January 22, 2007**

**Latest Financial number revision updated January 24, 2012**