



SUMMER CAMP STAFF SEMINARIAN SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

What is PROJECT CONNECT: Calling Leaders for a Changing World?

Project Connect: Calling Leaders for a Changing World, is an initiative of the Eastern Cluster of Lutheran Seminaries (Philadelphia, Gettysburg, and Southern). These seminaries are part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Project Connect is funded by a grant from Lilly Endowment, Inc.

The purpose of Project Connect is to organize an enthusiastic network of church leaders to mentor and provide theologically sound vocational discernment programs for young adults.

This endeavor will be accomplished by **identifying** young adults who are active in church life; **nurturing** relationships with those who are open to a process that extends, deepens, and provides focus for vocational discernment; and **sustaining** these relationships by providing profound experiences in congregational ministry.

Who should apply for a scholarship?

Seminarians who desire an outdoor ministry leadership experience but find it financially difficult to accept such a position may apply for one of 6 available \$1,500 scholarships. This scholarship is meant to supplement the salary being offered by the camp who has offered you summer employment.

Who are these scholarships available to?

Scholarships are available for those who are currently attending a seminary of the Eastern Cluster of Lutheran Seminaries, have successfully completed at least one semester at an Eastern Cluster seminary, and will be working at an ELCA camp in Region 7, 8 or 9.

What staff positions do seminarians have at camp?

Seminary students will need to apply and be hired by a camp in either a program position (counselor, program director, etc.) or as a staff chaplain.

Why are these scholarships being made available?

The feedback we have received from our larger outdoor ministry sites, where there are so many staff with whom to connect and build relationships, is that more time with seminarians on site will be helpful. Camps who have been able to employ seminary students have found that their presence throughout the summer breaks down negative stereotypes of clergy, allows young adults to interact with someone close in age to them who has responded to a call to ministry, and provides a conversation partner in vocational discernment who is not intimidating. Additionally, seminarians bring a level of maturity, experience and theological education to the staff that camp directors find very valuable.

How do seminarians benefit from an outdoor ministry experience?

Seminarians benefit from their summer camp experience by growing in their skills with vocational discernment.

First Application Deadline: February 10, 2007

Applicants will be informed of the status of their applications in letters postmarked by March 5.

Applications will include:

1. Application Form
2. Personal essay
3. Copy of camp staff Letter of Agreement

Second Application Deadline: April 15, 2007

If scholarships are still available, a second round of applications will be considered. Those who meet the second application deadline will be notified of their status by May 5, 2007.

Age

Applicants must be no older than 30 years of age on May 31, 2007.

Personal Essay

Each applicant must write a short essay in which the applicant discusses his or her core theological commitments and the ways in which they will share their faith and help young people discern God's call in their lives.

For more information please contact

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Please send completed materials to

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Please visit the Project Connect website and let us know what you think!

www.projectconnect.org

