

# **CHRISTIAN CHURCH HEALTH CARE BENEFIT TRUST STUDENT HEALTH CARE PREMIUM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND APPLICATION**

## **Background and Purpose**

The Churchwide Health Care Program was established in 1972 to provide health care coverage for ministers and lay church employees of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). In the same year, the Health Care Gift program was also created to assist those who needed assistance with Churchwide Health Care premiums. The Health Care Gift program is funded through contributions from congregations, friends and other members of the Church, as well as from endowment income.

Students enrolled at least half-time in a Masters of Divinity or equivalent ministry degree in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Christian Churches or Churches of Christ, are eligible for Churchwide Health Care premium assistance.

## **Eligibility**

To be eligible to participate in the Program, the applicant must satisfy the following criteria:

1. be a current student at an accredited theological education seeking an advanced degree in Christian ministry;
2. be enrolled as a half-time student working towards an advanced theological degree;
3. have a completed and signed the application forwarded to the Christian Church Health Care Benefit Trust along with the Health Care Application and initial premium payment;\* and
4. have a completed and signed certification statement from the seminary/divinity house where enrolled.

(\*Note: Please contact the Pension Fund office for rate quotes and health care application.)

## **Terms of Assistance**

Participation in the Program is approved for a 12 month period, and can be renewed for up to four separate 12 month periods, for a total of 48 months of participation.

The assistance will be equal to one-half (50%) of the CWHC premium amount with a maximum gift of \$300.00 per month. Also, the student must pay the amount that exceeds the maximum gift in order to participate.

## **Application Deadline**

There is no deadline for applying for the Program, providing the student meets all eligibility requirements. A new application and supporting certification must be submitted for each 12 month period of participation, applied for coverage, under the Program.

**Christian Church Health Care Benefit Trust**  
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