

SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY COMMISSIONED RULING ELDER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Shenandoah Presbytery welcomes and supports those Ruling Elders who are discerning the ways in which God is calling them to serve the church. Shenandoah Presbytery's Handbook for Commissioning Ruling Elders may be found at:
<https://shenpres.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/81/2023/07/Preparation-for-Commissioning-of-Ruling-Elders-06-2023.pdf>

The Book of Order states that a person who seeks to be commissioned for particular pastoral service as defined in G-2.1001 "shall receive such preparation as determined by the Presbytery to be appropriate to the particular commission. The Ruling Elder shall be examined by the Presbytery as to personal faith, motives for seeking the commission, and the areas of instruction determined by Presbytery." (G-2.1002). Shenandoah Presbytery requires that those seeking to serve as CREs, as part of their preparation, take classes through the Pathways program at Union Presbyterian Seminary.

General Information

- All applications for scholarships must be received in the Presbytery's office. CRE Scholarship Grants will be approved, applicants will be notified of their application's status, and funds distributed upon approval of the committee. Due to the nature of the Pathways class schedule, application may happen throughout the year.
- Scholarships are a direct grant of aid to recipients and are intended to be used towards the student's educational costs. These costs may include tuition for the Pathways courses, through Union Presbyterian Seminary, books for those courses, computer needs to take those courses, and for those already serving in a commission, continuing education opportunities.
- Recipients, Sessions and congregations are encouraged to contribute to the scholarship fund at a future date so that assistance might be available for other students.

Applicants

- Applicants must be a member of a Presbyterian Church in the Shenandoah Presbytery.
- Applicants must be officially enrolled in Shenandoah Presbytery's Commissioned Ruling Elder Program.
- Applicants should address financial need in the appropriate section on the application form.
- *After* funds have been allocated, it is the applicant's responsibility:
 - To notify the Presbytery Office if there is a change in the applicant's approved request or status.
 - To provide Shenandoah Presbytery with an annual account of how you have benefitted from this financial support, specifically including what you

have been able to learn through this scholarship grant, how it has impacted your faith life and discernment, and how you are currently putting what you have learned into practice.

Session

- Sessions are strongly encouraged to support those Ruling Elders seeking Commissioning. This will include prayer, certainly, but should also include some financial support, as possible for the Session and congregation.
- Electronic submissions are strongly encouraged; however, paper applications may also be received.

Mail to: Shenandoah Presbytery
Funds Administrator – CRE Scholarship
CRE Subcommittee
PO Box 1146
Harrisonburg, VA 22803

APPLICATION FOR CRE SCHOLARSHIP GRANT

Section I: General Information (please print neatly or type)

1. Name in full:

What name do you generally use?

2. Home Address

Phone:

E-mail:

3. Date you entered into Shenandoah Presbytery's CRE Program?

4. Where in your program are you?

- a. Explorer?
- b. Disciple?
- c. Serving in a Commission?

5. Have you taken classes though the Pathways program previously?

- a. If so, please list below

Section II.

1. In what church do you hold membership?
2. When were you ordained as a Ruling Elder?
3. Please share your sense of call to ministry as a Commissioned Ruling Elder

Section III.

1. Please list below the amount of financial support you are asking, and what it will be used for.

2. What financial support is your Session/congregation giving you?