

**ITEM F.106
FOR ACTION**

FOR PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE USE ONLY			
A. Resource Allocation & Stewardship		D. Coordinating Committee	G. Outreach to the World
B. Personnel & Nominating		E. Mid-Councils	H. Ministerial Teams
C. Property/Legal		F. Nurture the Body	P. Plenary

Subject: Financial Aid for Service: Proposed Changes to Scholarship Programs

Recommendations:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board:

- 1. Consolidate the National Presbyterian College Scholarship, Student Opportunity Scholarship, and Native American Education Grant into one Presbyterian Scholarship for undergraduates, serving freshman to seniors, open for application by freshman, sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**
- 2. Expand eligibility for Presbyterian Study Grant to include all full-time MDiv students under care of Presbytery and attending an ATS accredited seminary that is acceptable to the Presbytery of care.**
- 3. Extend eligibility to students attending new worshipping communities who are recommended for award by a leader in that Presbyterian new worshipping community.**

Background:

This change will improve alignment with mission work plans, increase the size of applicant pools to make selection for award meaningful and to make the best use of donor-restricted funding.

Presbyterian Mission Agency offers five undergraduate student aid programs. Students, parents, and colleagues in enrollment management at related institutions have expressed confusion over the requirements for each program. Simplifying or reducing eligibility requirements improves accessibility to the benefits of the programs, enhances efforts to reach underserved people of color, and simplifies program administration.

Aid for seminarians is currently limited to full-time students attending Presbyterian-related seminaries. After three consecutive years of failure to increase participation by people of color, the Presbyterian Study Grant reading committee noted that the applicant pool was not sufficiently diverse or large enough to make selection a meaningful process, and recommended expanding eligibility to include students under care of a Presbytery attending any ATS accredited seminary that is acceptable to the Presbytery of care for the purpose of ordination.