

LARK LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM PROGRAM GUIDELINES

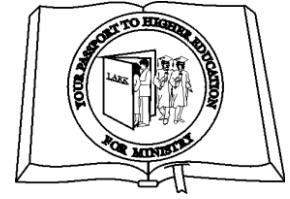


- 1.) **The purpose of the Lark Leadership Scholarship Program is to enhance the ministry and church leadership skills of persons serving African American Mennonite Association (AAMA) churches.**
- 2.) Students must be members and actively involved in the ministry of an AAMA congregation.
- 3.) Students must have the recommendation of their pastors. Students who are pastors must have the recommendation of their bishop or conference minister.
- 4.) Lark assistance will pay up to 75% of tuition for undergraduate students and 50% of tuition for graduate students.
- 5.) Lark funds, available each year, are limited. The two criteria that will be used for selecting students are the date a completed Lark Application Form is received by the Lark Program Coordinator, and the effectiveness with which students have communicated their goals in the written one page narrative (Last item on page 3 of application form). Students are therefore encouraged to put forth special effort on this portion of the application for it will weigh heavily as a deciding factor as to whom funds will be dispersed.
- 6.) Students must complete all admission and financial aid procedures at the institution they wish to attend. Prior to the beginning of each semester, students must send to the Lark Program Coordinator copies of institutional documents showing a print out of courses to be taken, a printed statement showing tuition charges and the total tuition amount due to the University, and financial aid received other than Lark funds. Copies of these forms must accompany the student's application form. These items must be submitted to the Lark Program Coordinator at least four (4) weeks prior to the beginning of the semester.
- 7.) Students are required to maintain a satisfactory academic status. Undergraduate students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.00. Graduate students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.00. **Any student who does not maintain a satisfactory academic status will not be eligible to receive Lark funds.**
- 8.) Students are required to submit an official copy of their transcript to the Lark Program Coordinator at the completion of each semester to ensure satisfactory completion of classes for which they have registered as well as a satisfactory academic status. **Any student who fails to send an official copy of his/her transcript will not be eligible to receive funds for the following semester.**
- 9.) Payment of Lark funds will be made directly to the institution in which the student is enrolled.
- 10.) Course guidelines:
 - a. Students are expected to take courses which provide Bible or ministry training.

- b.** General education courses are appropriate only when part of a degree program or other extended plan of study, which will enhance ministry skills.
- c.** When engaged in an extended plan of study, students are expected to include courses which provide training in both urban ministry and Mennonite perspectives. Thus, students attending a Mennonite college or seminary are required to complete appropriate urban ministry training. Such training may include course work and practical experiences (e.g. internships, etc.) in approved urban settings.
- d.** Students attending non-Mennonite institutions will be required to fulfill some form of course work in Anabaptist history and theology. Therefore, those students attending non-Mennonite schools are required to complete Unit III of the Pastoral Studies Distance Education Course entitled "Leading God's People".

Plans of study are subject to the approval of the Lark Program Coordinator.

LARK LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM FOR RETURNING STUDENTS



Instructions: All information on application must be either type written or neatly and legibly printed. The applicant **must** complete all information requested in its entirety. Incomplete applications **will** be discarded.

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Address: _____ Telephone _____
City State Zip Day: _____
Evening: _____

Congregational Membership: _____

Pastor: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____
Church Home

Institution you plan to attend

Name: _____ Phone: _____
(toll-free if available)

Address: _____
Street No. & Name City State Zip

Plan of Study

Please indicate below any changes in your educational plan such as a change in course of study or institution if applicable.

Please check term for which you are applying below:

Fall Spring Summer

Year	Course Title	Credit Hours
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

What is the cost of these courses?

\$_____ per semester hour

\$_____ per semester

In addition to listing courses on application form, students are asked to send a printout of classes for which they have registered.

Statement of Understanding

In applying for Lark assistance I understand that: 1) Lark funds are intended for African American persons who seek to improve ministry skills for service in AAMA churches; 2) Lark assistance is limited to 75% of tuition for undergraduate students and 50% of tuition for graduate students; 3) Lark assistance is intended as a supplement to other forms of financial aid and my receipt of a Lark grant is dependent on completing all institutional financial aid applications; and 4.) to receive Lark assistance I am committed to meeting all guidelines for the program.

Student Signature Date

Pastor/AAMA Affirmation

(Signature of Bishop or conference minister if student is an AAMA pastor)

I affirm that the person above is an active leader in some area of congregational ministry in an AAMA church. I understand our congregation must meet the following criteria for benefiting from such AAMA programs as the Lark Scholarship program: **(1)** active involvement in AAMA including sending delegates to the AAMA Biennial Assembly; **(2)** contributing annually to AAMA; and **(3)** designating an active AAMA advocate.

Signature of Pastor or AAMA Representative Date

**Please Mail Application to:
Mennonite Education Agency
ATTN: Lark Leadership Program
3145 Benham Avenue, Suite 2
Elkhart, IN 46517
Telephone: (757) 262-0128**