

Utah Idaho Southern Baptist Convention

Executive Board Program Committee

Guidelines for the

SMO Christian Leadership Higher Education Fund

After a great deal of thorough evaluation and discussion, the UISBC Executive Board reached the conclusion that establishing a local SBC seminary branch in Utah-Idaho is cost prohibitive and not financially practical at the present time.

Therefore, the UISBC Executive Board Program Committee recommended, and the full Board approved the recommendation, that the SMO funds received, presently being retained in a restricted fund account, be designated as a Christian Leadership Higher Education Fund and become available for disbursement.

The original intent and strategy for the SMO funds was that of providing seminary educational opportunities for Southern Baptists inside our convention area, preempting the need for our Utah-Idaho leaders to be required to leave our geographical area to receive higher educational training.

Therefore, in keeping with the original intent of the SMO gifts of Utah Idaho Southern Baptists, the UISBC Executive Board Program Committee sets forth the following guidelines for the requests and allocation of the SMO Christian Higher Education Fund:

1. The applicant must be residing and serving in a local church, association, or state convention ministry, inside the geographic area known as the Utah Idaho Southern Baptist Convention, at the time of the request.
2. The applicant shall provide information that sets forth the parameters of their program of study and ministry objectives.
3. The applicant will show evidence of registration for classes that will further their educational and ministry objectives.
4. An accredited, and/or respected educational institution shall offer the classes.
5. The SMO Christian Higher Education Fund may reimburse the applicant for one class per calendar year, up to \$750 per year.
6. The applicant may reapply for additional funding, after a six-month waiting period, beginning after the reimbursed class, according to the conditions of guidelines 1 through 5. This will help broaden the parity of potential disbursement
7. The funding request shall be submitted to the State Executive Director through the local Director of Associational Missions. If an association is presently without a Director of Missions, the request may be submitted directly to the State Executive Director.
8. The State Executive Director will review the request for approval, and refer it to the UISBC Executive Board Program Committee for final approval.
9. The UISBC Executive Board Program Committee shall make final approval.

Revised: 5/2010

**The applicant should submit a simple one-page request statement, with appropriate documentation, attached with the above guidelines, either by email or hardcopy, according to Guideline 7.