

**Southeastern PA Synod
Seminary Debt Relief Grant Application**

Dear Rostered Minister,

The Finance Committee of the Southeastern PA Synod is pleased to inform you that, in the spirit of generosity, a limited amount of funding has been included in the Synod's regular 2026-27 budget to help those rostered ministers of our synod for whom seminary student loan debt is a significant burden. Although there is no guarantee that such funds will be included in future years' budgets, if such funds are approved, and if you are eligible, you may apply in future years as well.

If you are a rostered minister under call in the Southeastern PA Synod and are carrying debt from your seminary education that is a significant burden, you are eligible to apply for these funds. Applications must be received by September 30, 2026 to be considered. Please complete the application below and return it to the business office of the synod to the attention of Martin Schwab at (mschwab@sepa.org) or through postal mail, (Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA, 7241 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19119-1723).

All information will be held in the strictest confidence. If you are awarded a seminary debt relief grant by SEPA Synod, you will be notified by email or U.S. Postal mail by November 13, 2026. If you are selected you will be asked to forward documentation verifying the amount of the outstanding seminary loan, and information that will facilitate deposit of the funds on your behalf. All grants will be sent directly to the financial institution holding the debt.

Sincerely,

Pia Graham
Chair, SEPA Synod Finance Committee

Janet Neff
SEPA Synod Treasurer

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ email: _____

Congregation or agency where you are under call: _____

Amount of Seminary Debt: \$ _____ (pay off amount as of September 30, 2026)

Year of Seminary Graduation: _____ (Office Use _____)