

# STEP INTO LEADERSHIP

## WHAT IS THE MINISTRY INQUIRY PROGRAM?

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MIP is an exciting opportunity for college-age young adults to test their gifts and explore their calling through a hands-on summer internship in a Mennonite Church USA congregation, camp or denominational agency. Participants usually work under the supervision of a pastor, and are involved in many aspects of pastoral life and work. The MIP offers many placements for young adults to consider, including a wide range of congregations across MC USA.

## HOW DOES MIP WORK?

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The student sets their own goals in consultation with both the supervising pastor and their college administrator. Requirements include a final reflection paper (750-1000 words) and evaluation. In most placements, students live with a host family from the congregation who provides lodging and food expenses.

Each participant receives a scholarship of \$3000 to be applied expenses at a Mennonite college or seminary.

The money comes from the following sources:

- \$750 from Mennonite Church USA
- \$750 split evenly between the home and hosting conferences
- \$750 from the home congregation of the student
- \$750 from the Mennonite college or seminary the student attends the following year or at a later date.

In addition to the above, the congregation to which the student is assigned provides \$750 cash for living expenses. They also provide the lodging for the duration of the internship.

"STUDENTS ARE TYPICALLY GLOWING WHEN THEY RETURN FROM THEIR EXPERIENCE, HAVING FOUND IT EXTREMELY HELPFUL IN THEIR VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT FOR FULL-TIME MINISTRY. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THE MINISTRY INQUIRY PROGRAM FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS SEEKING A MEANS OF DISCERNMENT REGARDING THEIR CALLING TO MINISTRY."  
DR. RANDALL S. KEELER, BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY

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## OTHER QUESTIONS?

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**Can I participate in MIP during the school year?**

Yes, if your college, congregation and area conference are all willing.

**What about academic credit?**

Some colleges have arranged for credit; check with your administrator.

**How many students participate each year?**

Resources are available to support 14 students each year.

## WHICH COLLEGES ARE INCLUDED AND WHO ARE THE CONTACT PERSONS?

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### Bethel College

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### Bluffton University

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### Eastern Mennonite University

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### Goshen College

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### Hesston College

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The Ministry Inquiry Program is especially geared to students at a Mennonite Church USA college or university who will have completed 2-3 years of college. Seniors who plan to enter a Mennonite seminary may also be considered. Students with a 3.0 GPA or above will be given priority.

## HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

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"THE MINISTRY INQUIRY PROGRAM HELPED ME TO BE NO LONGER AFRAID OF PUBLIC SPEAKING. I FEEL VERY CONFIDENT TO PURSUE PASTORAL LEADERSHIP ROLES IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE SEEDS THAT HAVE BEEN PLANTED IN ME WILL GROW INTO MIGHTY TREES."  
-JUSTIN ODOM, 2020 MIP STUDENT AT PARKVIEW MENNONITE CHURCH, HARRISONBURG, VA

- Contact the person within your college responsible for the Ministry Inquiry Program.
- Express your interest to your campus pastor or Bible Studies/ Religion professor.
- Talk to your pastor.
- Complete an application form and give it to your college administrator.

If you represent a congregation, camp or denominational agency, contact a college administrator or conference leader directly to let them know of your interest in hosting a student for the summer.

**For more information, go to [MennoniteUSA.org/mip](https://MennoniteUSA.org/mip)**



**Mennonite  
Church  
USA**

Contact

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MIP is a program of the Church Vitality office of Mennonite Church USA.