

# Church Matching Grant Application

## Seminary Form



Many churches offer both prayer and financial support to men and women who emerge within the ministry of the local church and have an initial sense of call into ministry. North Park will match a gift from a student's church up to the amount of \$500 per semester (\$1,500 per academic year, over three semesters). If the addition of the Church Matching Grant funds and the North Park Match exceeds a student's tuition charges for the semester, North Park institutional match will be reduced so as to not exceed the tuition charges. The North Park Office of Seminary Admission will be glad to discuss this program with local church representatives.

**Eligibility:** Students must be Seminary degree- or certificate-seeking students who are enrolled in three or more academic credits for each semester the grant is applied.

**Church Considerations:** Churches should be aware of the possible tax implications related to these programs, and are encouraged to consult with their tax counsel as appropriate. First, churches need to determine whether or not financial support to their employee would be considered a taxable benefit. The IRS rules do allow (under some conditions) for the exclusion of some educational benefits from taxable income. Second, in general a donor may not select the recipient of financial assistance and also receive a charitable gift receipt for that assistance. Churches should establish and follow protocols so that individual donors are not receiving charitable gift credit for assisting individuals of their own choosing. Again, churches should consult their tax counsel for specific advice on both matters.

We also encourage students to express their gratitude directly to their home church for such gifts and expressions of support.

Note: There is a separate form for the Undergraduate Student Church Matching Grant program at [www.northpark.edu/churchesandpastors](http://www.northpark.edu/churchesandpastors).

### To be completed by the student applicant

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I am applying for a Church Matching Grant as follows (max \$500 per semester):

	<b>Requested</b>		<b>Church Commitment</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Aug–Dec	\$_____	Payment must be received by September 1*	\$_____
2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester Jan–May*	\$_____	Payment must be received by January 1	\$_____
3 <sup>rd</sup> Semester May–Aug*	\$_____	Payment must be received by June 15	\$_____

\*Summer cohort payment deadline must be received by July 15; summer cohort students are billed only in the second and third semesters, therefore matching grants are restricted to those two semesters.

### To be completed by the church

Church Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Phone Number (including area code): \_\_\_\_\_

*The above church certifies that the above student is eligible to participate in the Church Matching Grant program.*

Our church would like to pay our portion (check one):

- One payment at the start of the year (must enclose)
- One payment at the start of each semester (must enclose first payment with this form)

Enclosed with the application; please find our check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_

Church Matching Awards are not applied to a student's account retroactively.

Checks should be made payable to North Park University. Please note the student name on the check.

Checks may be submitted to:  
Financial Aid Office  
North Park University  
3225 West Foster Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60625

As a representative of the sponsoring church, I confirm the awarding of this grant is in keeping with the Church Guidelines described above.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_