

**Diocese of San Diego**

**POLICY ON FINANCIAL AID FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE PRIESTHOOD**

The personal maturity of a candidate for the priesthood includes that he manifest good stewardship in the matter of financing his education. This means:

1. he should search out every possible source of educational financial aid for which he might qualify;
2. he should show deep appreciation for the help of his family;
3. he should be expressly grateful as well, for the assistance he receives from the diocese and individuals and groups in the church;
4. he should espouse a modest and simple life style;
5. he should apply himself diligently to the discipline of human and spiritual growth and development and give himself generously to his vocation of prayer, study, and apostolic or ministerial works--the legitimate expectancy of his benefactors;
6. he should be responsible in the justice matter of loan repayments.

**College Students**

College students are responsible for their own educational expenses. They should provide for themselves, to the best of their ability, through personal resources, working with financial aid officers at the university or college in which they are enrolled, and through gainful employment in vacation periods.

The Diocese of San Diego may provide grants (gift aid) to college students, according to proven need, for which repayment is not expected.

Diocesan loans are available to college students who are unable to meet their educational expenses.

**Theology and Pre-Theology Students**

The Diocese of San Diego sponsors theology and pre-theology students (those who have earned a college degree or the equivalent yet need other entrance requirements for a graduate school of theology) by making payment in their behalf for the following:

1. room, board and tuition for the regular academic year and any further study programs approved by the bishop;
2. books, in an amount specified annually, and any additional fees for seminary requirements billed by the seminary to the diocese;
3. health insurance whether provided personally, through the seminary, or by the diocese.

In addition, theology students receive a monthly personal allowance and a travel allowance, in an

amount to be specified annually.

A student will not be expected to make repayment of these expenditures, even should he not complete studies for the priesthood. However, if he transfers to another diocese or religious community, that diocese or religious community will be expected to make due remuneration to the Diocese of San Diego.

Theology and pre-theology students are personally responsible for expenses such as clothing, entertainment, and recreational travel. Diocesan loans are available for these expenses according to proven need and with the verification that all other resources are exhausted.

Loan applications are made with a letter to the director of theology students. Students will be expected to sign a promissory note for each loan received which will become interest bearing at the rate of six percent upon termination of studies or ordination.

### **Repayment**

Upon termination of studies or ordination, those who have received loans are expected to make arrangements for repayment.

"Termination of Studies" indicates when the former candidate is no longer registered somewhere as a full-time student.

### **Seminarian Interns**

In addition to their monthly allowance seminarians on parish intern assignments will be provided with room and board by the parish.

In assignments where meals are not provided in full or in part, seminarians are to be reimbursed for meals up to a maximum of \$500 per month by the parish.

If seminarians use their own car for parish related responsibilities they should be reimbursed by the parish at the current per mile rate prescribed by the IRS.