

Hartville Area Mennonite Student Aid Plan (HAMSAP)

2021-2022

HAMSAP is a financial aid plan for students from Stark County based congregations who want to attend a Mennonite college or seminary.

HAMSAP was established to help underwrite the differential in cost between church school and tax-supported colleges and universities.

HAMSAP was organized in 1988. The first grants were awarded for the 1989-90 school year. Seventeen students were awarded a grant for each of the four full years in college. Several others have been awarded grants equivalent to three and one-half years. Altogether a total of 80 students have been awarded grants.

Mennonite Schools Qualifying:

Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, IN

Bethel College, Newton, KS

Bluffton University, Bluffton, OH

Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, VA

Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Harrisonburg, VA

Goshen College, Goshen, IN

Hesston College, Hesston, KS

Messiah College, Grantham, PA

Rosedale Bible College, Irwin, OH

Information about the Grants

Where does one get additional information?

Any of the HAMSAP committee members will be ready to clarify the purpose of the grants and how to apply. For more info please email secretary@mgmennonite.org.

What is the procedure to secure an application?

Application forms have been placed in the church offices of Cornerstone Community Chapel, Dayspring Christian Fellowship, Evermore Community Church, and Maple Grove Mennonite Church. You may also email secretary@mgmennonite.org to obtain a copy.

By what date must the application be filed?

Applications should be in the hands of the HAMSAP committee members by May 15. This permits the adequate planning for the subsequent school year by both the students and the schools.

What is the dollar value of grants?

The grants are \$1,500 for a full year with half disbursed each semester. Prior to each semester HAMSAP forwards the money to the colleges and seminaries to cover the amount of the grants approved.

What is the difference between a grant and a loan?

A loan is a sum of money needing to be repaid. The grants from HAMSAP are not loans payable at some future date. They are grants given to encourage attendance at Mennonite colleges and seminaries.

What are the sources of funds received by HAMSAP?

The funds come from compassionate and interested individuals and from the congregations. HAMSAP members welcome contributions to make possible additional future grants.

Statement of Purpose

The recognition that one of the needs of church congregations is to provide adequate opportunity for the education of its members, both in preparation for a vocation and for fullest participation in the life of the church, is the foundational purpose of this student aid plan.

This, we believe, is especially important for the training of youth, for leadership training in the church, and in fact, for the training in the exercise of all the gifts of the Spirit in the church. We therefore, believe that a Mennonite College or seminary education should be available to all members of the congregations who feel called to improve their skills and to deepen their understanding of the Christian walk.

Basic Philosophy

This student financial aid plan has been established to give financial aid to active members and regular attendees of local area churches for the following reasons:

- To affirm our belief in the distinct values of Christian education in the Anabaptist Mennonite tradition.
- To encourage church members to pursue Christian education at Mennonite colleges or seminaries.
- To reduce or eliminate financial disability as the barrier which may prevent an individual from enrolling at one of the Mennonite Church colleges or seminaries.
- To promote a spirit of mutual sharing and servanthood in our congregations.
- To give young people further opportunity to learn about and appreciate the Anabaptist vision.