American Baptist Churches of New Jersey  
Seminarian Scholar Award Application  
Undergraduate Emerging Scholar Award Application  
2012 Application  

APPLICANTS  
The American Baptist Churches of New Jersey, with money received from trust funds, is able to offer a limited number of scholarships to persons from member churches in covenant with the region that are enrolled in one of the following Undergraduate and Professional Degree Programs from an accredited institution: Associates, Bachelor of Arts/Science, Master of Divinity (M.Div.), Master of Christian Education (M.C.E.) or Master of Religious Education (M.R.E.).

APPLICATION PROCESS  
Applicants need to:  
1. Complete the Undergraduate or Seminarian Scholar Award Application. (Type or Print Neatly)  
2. Provide a letter of reference from their home pastor using the attached form.  
3. Provide a copy of their most recent transcript or a copy of their acceptance letter.  
4. Compose a one page integrative essay. The theme of the essay is as follows:  
   a. FOR UNDERGRADUATES: “Living Out My Faith in a College Setting”  
   b. FOR SEMINARIANS: “God’s Call - My Response”  
5. All application materials should be mailed in one package to the address below by July 31, 2012.  
6. The letters from your pastor must be in a sealed envelope. Failure to include all of the requested documents may be grounds for rejecting the application. Send your packet to:

Scholar Awards Committee  
American Baptist Churches of New Jersey  
3752 Nottingham Way, Suite 101  
Trenton, NJ 08690-3802

CRITERIA FOR RECEIVING AWARDS  
1. ABCNJ Emerging Scholar Awards ($3,600 per year): ABCNJ will award up to 15 scholarships for undergraduates each year. The process will be competitive, with applicants writing a one page integrative essay on “Living Out My Faith in a College Setting.” A region-wide committee of 2 Finance Committee members, 2 educators, 2 local church pastors, and 2 region staff would choose the winners. All scholarship recipients will be recognized at Annual Session, and the top essay will be read. Here is the anticipated award schedule:  
   a. $500 Emerging Scholar Gold Award  
   b. $400 Emerging Scholar Silver Award  
   c. $300 Emerging Scholar Bronze Award  
   d. Twelve $200 Emerging Scholar Honorable Mention Awards

2. ABCNJ Seminarian Scholar Awards ($6,000 per year): ABCNJ would award a total of twelve $500 scholarships for seminarians each year. The process will be competitive, with applicants writing a one page integrative essay on “God’s Call – My Response.” A region-wide committee of 2 Finance Committee members, 2 educators, 2 local church pastors, and 2 region staff would choose the winners. All scholarship recipients will be recognized at Annual Session, and the top essay will be read.

3. Family members of full-time ABCNJ employees and the Scholars Award Committee are not eligible for awards, due to conflict of interest issues.

4. Sponsoring churches must be in covenant with the denomination. This includes giving missions offerings to ABCNJ and participating in associational and regional events, such as Annual Session. It is the responsibility of the church to be in covenant.

5. All awards will be mailed directly to the recipient’s academic institution.

KEY DATES  
July 31, 2012  
Completed application must be returned.  
September 7, 2012  
Applicants are notified of awards given.  
September 29, 2012  
Presentations at Annual Session at the Hyatt Regency New Brunswick, NJ.  
Registration will be waived for awardees of top essays.
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Due Date: July 31, 2012

I. Personal Data

Name________________________________________

Home Address_________________________________

City__________________________ State ___________ Zip Code_________

Email Address__________________________@_____________________

II. Church Affiliation

Name of your Church_________________________________________

Street______________________________________________________

City__________________________ State ___________ Zip Code_________

Name of Your Pastor_________________________________________

How long have you been a church member? __________ How long have you been an active member of the church in which you hold present membership? __________

III. Education

List prior schools attended:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High School</th>
<th>City/State</th>
<th>Dates (Beginning-Ending)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College/University</th>
<th>City/State</th>
<th>Dates (Beginning-Ending)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Academic Honors | |
|------------------||

Other Honors and Extra curricular Activities__________________________________________________________

College/Seminary______________________________________________________

Address__________________________ City/State________________________ Zip_________

Bursar’s Office Address_________________________________________________________  

Address__________________________ City/State________________________ Zip_________

Grade Point Average: Attach a copy of your latest school transcript or acceptance letter that includes your GPA. (NOTE: No consideration will be given to applications with missing GPA data.)
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Pastor’s Reference Form

Applicant’s Name: ____________________________________________

Pastor’s Name: ____________________________________________

Church’s Name: ____________________________________________

Pastor, the above applicant is seeking a grant from the Scholar Awards Committee of the American Baptist Churches of New Jersey. In order to fulfill the criteria for eligibility, the person must be a member in good standing of an ABCNJ congregation. Sponsoring churches must be in covenant with the denomination. This includes giving missions offerings to ABCNJ and participating in associational and regional events, such as Annual Session. It is the responsibility of the church to be in covenant. Please sign the affirmation below, give some brief comments about the applicant and return this form to the applicant. For confidentiality, please be sure to place this form in a sealed envelope.

I hereby affirm that the above named applicant is a member in good standing of our church.

Comments:
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

(Signature) (Date)

Note: Your promptness in completing and returning this form is appreciated. Please return this form in a sealed envelope to the applicant. Materials received after the July 31, 2012 deadline will not be considered. Thank you for sharing in this process.