

GREENVILLE  
PRESBYTERIAN  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
EST. 1987

# Application for Admission

*equipping preachers, pastors, & churchmen  
for Christ's kingdom*

Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Admissions Office

PO Box 690

Taylors, SC 29687

864.322.2717

## GPTS APPLICATION INFORMATION

- Bachelor of Divinity, Master of Arts, Master of Divinity, ThM, Doctoral Projects

### ADMISSION DEADLINES

Degree Program	Fall Semester	Winter Term	Spring Semester	Summer Term
B.Div., M.Div.	Aug 1	Nov 15	Dec 1	June 1
M.A., ThM.		Oct 15		Mar 15
Doctoral Projects are Offered by Invitation Only			Aug 1	

These are hard deadlines. The Admissions Office will not process applications received after the deadlines.

### APPLICATION PROCESS

Greenville Seminary holds to a rolling admissions process. This means that as soon as the Admissions Office receives all requisite components of an application, the Admissions Committee reviews the application. Materials do not have to be submitted simultaneously, but an application will not be reviewed until it is complete. Once complete, the review process typically takes 1 – 2 business weeks.

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS BY DEGREE PROGRAM

Standard application requirements for all degree programs:

- Application Form (pages 4-6)
- Application Fee (\$50 for domestic students; \$150 for international students)
- Elders' Affirmation (B.Div., M.Div., and MMRE/MMD only)
- Official Transcription from all institutions attended
- Recommendation Forms
- Spiritual Autobiography
- Housing Application
- Academic Paper (for Th.M. only)

### APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

**1) APPLICATION FEES:** The application fee is non-refundable. Please make checks payable to GPTS or pay electronically at <https://gpts.edu/pay>.

**2) ELDERS' AFFIRMATION FORM:** The Elders' Affirmation form allows the seminary to know that Divinity and MMRE/MMD applicants are in good standing with their current churches. Each applicant must receive an official endorsement from the elders of the local church at which he is currently involved. If the applicant is not a member of his current church and/or has not been there for a minimum of one year at the time of filling out the application, he must have a pastor or elder at the church that holds his membership submit a fourth recommendation. Please contact [admissions@gpts.edu](mailto:admissions@gpts.edu) with any questions or concerns.

**3) OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTION:** Transcripts cannot be delivered by the applicant, stamped "Issued to student" or faxed. Please have the Registrar at your colleges mail your transcripts directly to the Registrar at Greenville Seminary. We need official transcripts from all educational institutions attended – even if only for one class or a study abroad experience.

**4) RECOMMENDATION FORMS:** The three Recommendation Forms are to be completed by individuals who have known you longer than one year. One recommendation must come from a pastor/elder at your current church, and we prefer that the other two recommendations come from a professor and employer. Recommendation forms may not be completed by family members.

**5) SPIRITUAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY:** The Spiritual Autobiography is an important part of the application, as it allows the seminary to get to know the applicant and learn about his/her spiritual journey. It should be minimum of 2 pages, and no longer than 3 pages, typed in 12 point font, double spaced, and should include the following:

- o A description of your conversion (including an articulation of the gospel, how you came to believe it, and how it has made a difference in your life)
- o An understanding of your call to ministry, plans for future service in the church, and/or why you desire theological education

**6) SEMINARY HOUSING APPLICATION:** All applicants must complete this form, indicating whether they would like to apply for Seminary-owned housing. If you are not interested in Seminary-owned housing, please check the box at the top of the Housing Application that says, "No, I am not interested." Housing deposits in the amount of \$100 are due within 30 days of acceptance to secure your housing reservation. If you are applying after the admissions deadline, you will need to communicate with the Registrar to verify availability at [registrar@gpts.edu](mailto:registrar@gpts.edu) or 864.322.2717.

## **ADMISSIONS COUNSELORS AND ACADEMIC ADVISORS**

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Each student is assigned a personal Academic Advisor from among the faculty. They will serve as your guide through your academic program during your time at Greenville Seminary and can assist you in making an easy transition to Greenville Seminary.

Admissions Counseling is available to prospective students throughout the year. Questions about advising should be directed to the Admissions Office at [admissions@gpts.edu](mailto:admissions@gpts.edu) or 864.322.2717.

## **TUITION RATE**

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Effective July 2016, the tuition charges are \$200 per credit hour for each program. Thereafter, the tuition rate will increase \$10.00 per credit hour, annually. Additional fees may apply, and may be found on page 72 of the Academic Catalog. The catalog is available on our website at <http://gpts.edu/catalog>

## **TUITION WAIVER PROGRAM FOR DIVINITY STUDENTS**

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We ask that the churches and/or presbyteries that endorse men for the gospel ministry financially support their candidates. The sending church or presbytery might support the student at the level of the student's actual costs (approx. \$3,000-\$3,800 per semester for a full-time student). Alternatively, a candidate under care of a presbytery or session of the PCA, OPC, or other approved denomination may have a tuition waiver. More information on this program may be found on page 74 of the Academic Catalog, which is available on our website at <http://gpts.edu/catalog>. Questions may also be directed to the Registrar at [registrar@gpts.edu](mailto:registrar@gpts.edu) or 864.322.2717.

## **TRANSFER CREDIT**

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Prospective students desiring to transfer credit from another seminary should contact the Academic Dean. During the application process, an official evaluation will be completed upon the receipt of the all transcripts. Questions may be directed to the Academic Dean at [bshaw@gpts.edu](mailto:bshaw@gpts.edu) or 864.322.2717.

## **NON-DEGREE STUDENT STATUS**

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Non-Degree Student Status is not a degree classification and is only applicable for one semester. This status requires the submission of the application form, application fee, elders' affirmation, housing application (if applicable) and spiritual autobiography. Admittance as a Non-Degree student status does not guarantee admission into a degree program. All recommendations and transcripts must be submitted within the first semester of study if a student intends to be admitted into a degree program. Financial Aid is not available to Non-Degree Students.

## **DISTANCE EDUCATION**

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Greenville Seminary maintains a network of Mentors (typically active pastors in local churches) around the nation as well as Internet-based classes. Our distance education program is only open to Divinity students, and does require a minimum number of hours on campus. For additional information regarding our distance education program, please refer to pages 24-25 on our website at <http://gpts.edu/catalog>.

## **ACCREDITATION**

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Greenville Seminary is a charter member of the Association of Reformed Theological Schools (ARTS). We recognize college degrees accredited by ARTS or any of the following: the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, as well as Bible college degrees accredited through the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE). If your school is not accredited by one of these agencies, admissions must be sought through the seminary's Provisional Admission policy (see below).

## **APPLICANTS WITH UNACCREDITED DEGREES – Provisional Admission**

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Applicants who hold a bachelor's degree from a college or university lacking regional accreditation are evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

## **APPLICANTS WITH AN INCOMPLETE BACHELOR'S DEGREE**

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Students with a 3.0 cumulative GPA who are within one semester of completing an undergraduate degree from a regionally accredited college or university are invited to apply under our Academic Graduate policy. The undergraduate degree must be completed within one year of enrollment at Greenville Seminary.

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

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Please note that international applicants must submit TOEFL scores for all degree programs. Information on these tests can be found at [www.toefl.org](http://www.toefl.org). Please note that the Internet-based test allows students to complete all three tests in one exam. Applicants must pass a TOEFL exam with one of the following scores in order to successfully apply for admission: paper-based (570-575); computer-based (230); and Internet-based (88-89). Questions and inquiries may be directed to the Registrar at [registrar@gpts.edu](mailto:registrar@gpts.edu) or 864.322.2717.

## **STUDENTS WITH ACCESSIBILITY AND LEARNING NEEDS**

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Greenville Seminary is committed to making both campus facilities and degree programs accessible to students. Students who have accessibility needs or learning-related needs are encouraged to contact the Registrar in order to determine how Greenville Seminary can assist in addressing those needs. The Registrar can be reached at 864.322.2717 or via email at [registrar@gpts.edu](mailto:registrar@gpts.edu).

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Should you require additional assistance, the Admissions staff is available to assist you Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM - 5 PM Eastern Standard Time. You can reach the Admissions Office by email at [admissions@gpts.edu](mailto:admissions@gpts.edu), by phone at 864.322.2717 ext. 324, or by fax at 864.322.2719.



## APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full legal name \_\_\_\_\_  
last first middle name usually called

Maiden name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Current mailing address \_\_\_\_\_  
apartment/box/street number

\_\_\_\_\_ city state/country zip

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
area code/number (home) area code/number (work)

Home city and state \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship \_\_\_\_\_  
country

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
month day year

Applicant's Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_  
city/state/country

Applicant's marital status:  Single  Married  
 Divorced  Widowed  Re-married

Gender:  Male  Female

Date of Divorce \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security number \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Ethnic Group (For reporting purposes only):

- White: Non-Hispanic  American Indian or Alaskan native  Hispanic  
 Black: Non-Hispanic  Asian or Pacific islander  Other \_\_\_\_\_

## PURPOSE IN SEEKING A SEMINARY EDUCATION

Vocational goal (Indicate order of preference—1st, 2nd, and 3rd)

- |                             |                            |                                  |                             |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ___ Pastorate               | ___ Music Ministry         | ___ Counseling                   | ___ Pastoral Counseling     |
| ___ Church Administration   | ___ Evangelist             | ___ Christian Education          | ___ Civilian Chaplaincy     |
| ___ Religious Journalism    | ___ International Missions | ___ Adult Ministry               | ___ Military Chaplaincy     |
| ___ Media Ministry          | ___ Home Missions          | ___ Youth Ministry               | ___ Denominational Ministry |
| ___ Campus/College Ministry | ___ Children's Ministry    | ___ Teaching (higher education)  | ___ Recreation Ministry     |
| ___ Women's Ministry        | ___ Undecided              | ___ Other (Please specify) _____ |                             |

## CHURCH INFORMATION

Where is your current church membership?

\_\_\_\_\_ name of church mailing address city state zip

\_\_\_\_\_ phone pastor church clerk date of membership

Are you currently attending the church that holds your membership?  Yes  No (if no, please explain on separate piece of paper.)

Is the church that holds your membership affiliated with a denomination?  Yes  No

If yes, what denominational affiliation? Please be specific: \_\_\_\_\_

## EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

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Education beyond high school. Please list all institutions attended including college, university, seminary, and professional training:

name of college/institution – do not abbreviate	state	major	dates attended	degree conferred? if so, what degree?
name of college/institution – do not abbreviate	state	major	dates attended	degree conferred? if so, what degree?
name of college/institution – do not abbreviate	state	major	dates attended	degree conferred? if so, what degree?
name of college/institution – do not abbreviate	state	major	dates attended	degree conferred? if so, what degree?
name of college/institution – do not abbreviate	state	major	dates attended	degree conferred? if so, what degree?
name of college/institution – do not abbreviate	state	major	dates attended	degree conferred? if so, what degree?

**Note: An official transcript from each institution is required. Transcripts must be mailed directly from each institution.**

Maiden name on transcripts (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

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Please indicate the one semester/term in which you plan to begin:

Fall Semester     Spring Semester     Winter Term     Summer Term    Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate student status:

New     Readmission (please attach an explanation)     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Location:

Taylors, SC     Internet     International Campus (Gateshead, UK or Randburg, SA): \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate the one program to which you are seeking admission:

Bachelor of Divinity     Master of Theology     Master of Arts     Master of Ministry for Ruling Elders  
 Master of Divinity     Non-Degree Special Student     Master of Ministry for Deacons

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

If you answer "yes" to any of these questions, please provide appropriate details/documentation on a separate sheet.

Yes	No	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Do you have any physical, mental, or emotional disabilities which may require special assistance?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Do you have learning disabilities or mental/physical condition(s) that might affect your academic work?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Have you ever been under the care of a psychologist, mental health counselor, or psychiatrist?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Have you ever declared bankruptcy or incurred any legal action against you associated with your finances?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Do you have existing debts aside from house and/or automobile?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Is it a problem for you to pay off the balance of your credit cards on a regular basis?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Will you incur debt by attending seminary? If yes, provide your plans for financing your seminary education.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Have you ever been dismissed, placed on academic, or disciplinary probation, or asked to withdraw by any educational institution?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Have you ever been convicted of any felony or been dishonorably discharged from any branch of the Armed Services?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Have you ever been dismissed, terminated, or fired from any place of employment?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	11. Have you ever used illegal drugs or abused alcohol?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12. Have you ever appeared on a local, state or national sex offender registry?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	13. Have you or your spouse ever been divorced?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	14. Have you ever been involved in any sexual misconduct of any nature?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	15. Does your spouse/family have any reservations concerning your desire to attend seminary?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	16. If you are married, please rate, in your opinion, the health of your marriage (1 = low, 10 = high).

## FAMILY INFORMATION

Spouse's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 last first middle preferred name

Children: \_\_\_\_\_  
 name date of birth M/F name date of birth M/F  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 name date of birth M/F name date of birth M/F

## EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Please list your last 4 employers beginning with the most recent:

Name of employer	Name of supervisor	Supervisor phone/email	Position held	Dates of employment
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

**If you are not a citizen of the United States, please complete this section.** Please note that international applicants are encouraged to apply at least one semester prior to the term they plan to enter.

In which country were you born? \_\_\_\_\_ In which country are you currently a citizen? \_\_\_\_\_

If you are now residing in the U.S., what is your immigrant or non-immigrant classification? (choose one)

F-1     J-1     H-1     Permanent Resident    Alien Registration Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 F-2     J-2     H-2     Other \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Please send photocopies of any current U.S. immigration documents. This is especially important for permanent residents.

Will you bring your family with you? (mark one)  No  Yes, Spouse Only  Yes, Spouse & Children (number of children \_\_\_\_\_)

What is your native language? \_\_\_\_\_

What other languages do you speak? \_\_\_\_\_

Unless you are studying in your native language at an extension center, you are required to submit a TOEFL (Test of English as a Second Language).

**In order to complete all requirements for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service, the seminary must receive all necessary documentation associated with the I-20 at least 60 days prior to the term for which you wish to enroll. No I-20 forms will be issued without approval for admission, the required deposit, and a valid affidavit of support. A student transferring from another school in the United States will receive his or her I-20 after arriving on campus. Please see the International Student Checklist for more information.**

## STATEMENT (TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL STUDENTS)

In making application to become a student at The Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary I pledge myself to abide by all the regulations of the faculty and administration as stipulated in the Student Handbook (available from the Registrar) to seek in every way to protect the good name of the institution; to preserve and protect the physical properties of the Seminary and to cooperate with the various groups of the Seminary family in creating and maintaining a spirit of Christian fellowship throughout my student days. I understand the Seminary reserves the right to request a student to withdraw at any time.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to: Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Registrar, PO Box 690, Taylors, SC 29687.





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# Application for Seminary Housing

**Refusal of Seminary Housing**

Please check the box below, print your name, and list your birth date if you do not require seminary housing. If you do not require seminary housing, no deposit is needed.

**NO. I am not interested in Seminary-owned housing.**

Print Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

- Please mail completed housing application with application for admission.
- Do not fill in information below if NOT applying for seminary-provided housing.

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name, if applicable \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

New Student  Current Student  Distance Student  Returning Student  Single  Married  
 Physical Handicap? Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female  
 Children: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

When do you plan to begin your studies? \_\_\_\_\_ Date housing needed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Month Year Month Year

A refundable \$100 deposit is required to apply for seminary-provided housing. The deposit must be received by Registrar within 30 days of your acceptance to Greenville Seminary. If sending the deposit with the application only check or money order, please. **Please make check separate from Admission application fee.** Refunds will be given if housing is unavailable, you are not accepted as a student, or you cancel your reservation more than 30 days before your planned occupancy. Include this housing application with your application for admission. Housing deposits sent separately should be sent to: Registrar, Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, PO Box 690, Taylors, SC 29687.

**Pets:**

Are you bringing a pet?  Yes  No

Do you have any preferences for sharing a house or apartment with another seminarian? If so, please name the student(s) below:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

**Background Information:**

Yes No

Have you ever been convicted of any crime (other than minor traffic or driving violations) or been dishonorably discharged from any branch of the Armed Services?

Have you ever used illegal drugs or abused alcohol?

**If you answered "yes" to either of the above questions, please provide appropriate details on a separate sheet and documentation as needed.**

Honest answers will not result in bias or an automatic denial of your application.

**Contact Information:**

Please list two people who will always know how to contact you:

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

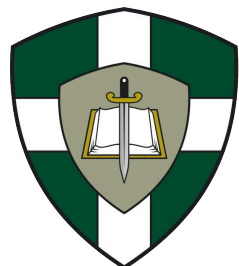
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

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



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