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7. Financial Information

Tuition

Lincoln Christian Seminary has established the following rates per credit hour for its tuition. These rates are subject to change at any time by the Seminary. At the time of publication of this catalog, the tuition rates for the 2007-2008 academic year are these:

Tuition (per credit hour)	\$434
Tuition (per credit hour DMin classes)	\$394
Tuition (per audit hour)	\$217
Tuition (per credit hour for certificates)	\$150

Please note that the \$399 tuition per credit hour may be reduced through a variety of scholarship opportunities that the Seminary provides to qualified persons (described below).

Other Fees and Costs

In addition to the basic tuition rates described above, the Seminary charges the following fees for the activities or situations described below.

Application Fee	\$20
Deferred/Late Payment Fee (made to LCCS)	\$25
Distance Learning Course Fee (per course)	\$150
Graduation Fee (registrar's office only, other fees may apply)	\$25
Independent Study Fee (per credit hour)	\$50
Library Binding Fee (for thesis)	\$60
Payment Plan Enrollment (annual fee)	\$50
Proficiency Exam Fee (for LS600, NT610, and OT610)	\$25
Registrar's Fees (change of program, schedule change after online registration closes)	\$10
Registrar's Fees (late registration, incompletes)	\$25
Thesis and Extended Research Paper Re-Registration Fee	\$100
Transcript Copy	\$5
Transcript Request (overnight)	\$35

Note: Several classes (including CH 801, LS 601, NT 639, and NT 899) occasionally meet in an off-campus location that requires an additional fee of \$100 or more plus travel, to cover the cost of housing and/or meals. Other classes (such as PC 667 and WS 604) have a \$15-40 fee to cover the cost of special materials used in the classroom.

Housing/Meal Costs

The Seminary provides housing in either the Student Apartment Complex (for married students or single students aged 23 or older) or in one of the campus residence halls (for single students and as space is available). The rates for campus housing are available from the Seminary Admissions Office (including the cost of staying one night per week in a residence hall for commuting students, as space is available). The Student Apartment Complex features reasonably priced one-bedroom, two-bedroom, and three-bedroom apartments (all unfurnished, but with refrigerator, stove, and central air). Students accepted into the Student Apartment Complex must sign a lease and make monthly rent payments. The availability of campus housing (whether single or married) is limited, so early inquiries are highly recommended. A variety of other housing options are available in the local community.

The Seminary also has an on-campus cafeteria and snack bar for commuter students and for single students living in one of the campus residence halls. A semester-long meal plan is available, or Seminary students may pay on a per-meal basis.

Payment Policy

Each student will be notified in writing, upon their registration, of the amount of tuition and fees (and any other costs) that is due. Two basic payment options are available to new or returning students:

- 1) Full payment at the time of registration, or
- 2) Monthly payment plan, as arranged through Lincoln Christian College and Seminary.

If you are not able to immediately pay your account balance in full, Lincoln Christian College and Seminary offers the opportunity to spread your bill over several interest-free monthly payments by enrolling in a payment plan. Your only cost is the \$50.00 annual enrollment fee. Check with the business office for the details of enrolling.

Returning students who have not paid their account in full will not be allowed to register.

Refund Policy

Students who officially withdraw from the Seminary or from a particular class are eligible for a refund of any monies already paid or a reduction of any unpaid charges as described below. Please note that refunds are calculated from the time the student officially withdraws by returning the withdrawal form to the Registrar's Office.

Students withdrawing from the institution may receive a reduction of

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charges incurred prior to completing 60% of the semester. This refund applies to any tuition, fees (except New Student Fee) or room and board charges.

- 1) If withdrawal is prior to the first regularly scheduled class day, all tuition, fees, and room and board charges are deleted.
- 2) If withdrawal is within the first 14 calendar days after the first regularly scheduled class day, then all tuition and fees are refunded minus a service charge of \$100. Room and board charge will be pro-rated based on the weekly rate.
- 3) If withdrawal is after the 14th calendar day, you will receive a pro-rata refund of tuition, fees, and room and board charges equal to the portion of the period of enrollment remaining, rounded downward to the nearest ten percent.
- 4) If withdrawal is after sixty percent of the semester has been completed, no refund shall be made.

All financial aid will be refunded based on your withdrawal date and the formula set by the Department of Education Return of Title IV Funds.

Students withdrawing from one or more courses but not from the entire institution are entitled to a full refund of tuition only for that course through the second week (the 14th calendar day), but no refund after the second week. Students withdrawing from courses that meet less than 15 weeks (i.e., one-week intensive courses, and Thursday block classes) are entitled to a full refund of tuition prior to the second class session and a 50% refund prior to the third class session, but no refund after that. Please note that students who withdraw before the semester begins, during the first two weeks of the semester, or before the second day of class for classes that meet less than 15 weeks will have the course removed from their transcript. Students who withdraw during the following two weeks will be given a grade of W (withdraw), which has no academic penalty. Students who withdraw after the first four weeks are typically given a grade of F, which does count against the grade point average, unless there are extenuating circumstances, as determined by the Registrar or one of the Academic Deans.

Financial Aid Eligibility Policy

The Seminary administers a number of federal and institutional financial aid programs that make Seminary education very affordable. These are described in some detail later in this chapter. It is important to note that federal law requires that students receiving federal funds under Title IV (federal work study and all federal loans) meet a “*satisfactory academic progress*” guideline. This guideline applies also to any institutionally administered financial aid. The specific guideline adopted by Lincoln Christian Seminary to determine eligibility for Title IV and institutional funds includes these five criteria:

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- 1) *Minimum Grade Point Average:* Students must maintain a grade point average of at least 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale).
 - 2) *Total Hours Attempted:* Students must have earned at least 67% of the “total hours attempted” to be considered eligible for financial aid. “Total hours attempted” is defined as the sum of the hours for all Seminary and transfer courses for which registration charges were incurred (including courses from which a student withdrew, if no refund was given). No undergraduate courses can be included. First-time students will be given a one-semester “adjustment” period if they do not meet this criterion their first semester. In such cases, students do not need to appeal, but will instead automatically be considered on financial aid probation their second semester, during which time they will be allowed to receive aid.
 - 3) *Completion Limit:* Students are not eligible for financial aid after their total hours attempted reaches 150% of the total hours required for a certificate or degree, as noted here:

Certificate Program (18 hours)	27 hours
Master of Arts (1-year option)	45 hours
Master of Arts (48-hour option)	72 hours
Master of Arts in Counseling (60 hours)	90 hours
Master of Divinity (75 hours)	112 hours
Any Combination of a double degree	150 hours
 - 4) *Denial:* Students not meeting all of the criteria listed above will be denied additional financial aid and notified in writing of their ineligibility for further financial aid.
 - 5) *Appeal:* Students who are denied additional financial aid for not meeting criteria 1 or 2 may make a written appeal to the Financial Aid Office (using forms supplied by that office). If an appeal is granted, the student will be placed on financial aid probation and will be granted one additional semester of financial aid in which to meet the unmet criteria.

Scholarships

Lincoln Christian Seminary awards a number of scholarships to qualified students. These scholarships include both endowed and institutionally funded awards. Criteria vary depending upon the particular scholarship and are based in general upon students’ academic ability, spiritual maturity, and ministerial potential. The funds range from full tuition to partial tuition scholarships. Applications and additional information regarding scholarships are available from the Seminary Admissions Office or the Financial Aid Office. A Free Application for Federal

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Student Aid (FAFSA) must be submitted prior to consideration for financial aid (see www.fafsa.ed.gov).

Restoration Scholarship: A full-tuition scholarship for 75 hours is awarded to three first-time Master of Divinity students who are beginning their degree programs in the fall. The recipients will be chosen based upon academic ability (at least a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale for the last 60 hours of undergraduate work), spiritual maturity, leadership ministry potential, and active membership in a church affiliated with the Restoration Movement. Recipients must maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average during their 75-hour Master of Divinity degree program (they do not need to be enrolled full-time, except during their first semester). The deadline for application is April 1.

President's Scholarship: A full-tuition scholarship up to 18 hours is awarded to a limited number of students enrolled in one of the Seminary's degree programs in the fall semester. The 18 hours must be completed within the first 3 consecutive semesters of enrollment in a degree program to retain the scholarship. Applicants must have earned at least a 3.5 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) over their last 60 hours of undergraduate work, as well as demonstrate spiritual maturity and leadership ministry potential. Recipients must maintain a minimum 3.0 grade point average. The deadline for application is April 1.

Dean's Scholarship: A half-tuition scholarship for up to 18 hours is awarded to a limited number of students enrolled in one of the Seminary's degree programs and beginning in the fall semester. The 18 hours must be completed within the first 3 consecutive semesters a student is enrolled in a degree program to retain the scholarship. The criteria are the same as for the President's Scholarship, except that the minimum grade point average is 3.0, rather than 3.5, for initial eligibility. The application deadline is also April 1.

Alumni Legacy Scholarship: A one-time \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to three students who are children of alumni of Lincoln Christian Seminary.

Worldview Eyes Scholarship: A 10% discount for the duration of any seminary program is awarded to students who have successfully completed a World View Eyes Program.

International Student Scholarship: A scholarship of varying amounts for up to three years (75 hours maximum) is awarded to a limited number of international students pursuing one of the Seminary's degree programs. Specific application criteria and guidelines are available from the Seminary Admissions Office.

Seminary Spouse Scholarship: Spouses of full-time seminary students are eligible for a half-tuition scholarship for up to 9 hours per semester. Contact the Seminary

Admissions Office or Financial Aid Office for further information.

Second Degree Scholarship: Students pursuing a second master's degree at the Seminary beyond the 75-hour Master of Divinity degree are eligible for a 15% tuition discount for any hours required beyond the first 75 hours. Contact the Financial Aid Office to determine eligibility and ensure proper billing.

Seminary/Alumni Scholarships: The Seminary and its Alumni Association award a number of scholarships of various amounts to both new and returning students. Applications for these scholarship funds are available from the Financial Aid Office after January 1 and must be returned by March 1.

Endowed Scholarships: The Seminary has received a wide variety of endowed funds named in honor or in memory of various individuals and organizations. These scholarships are of differing amounts with different criteria, available to both new and returning students. To simplify the application process, the Financial Aid Office provides one general application form (available after January 1 and due by March 1).

Fellowships

The Seminary offers a limited number of fellowships. These provide the student with full tuition toward their degree program. A student awarded a Fellowship must serve twenty hours per week as a teaching assistant for a professor or department or in some other capacity for the duration of their seminary program. Recipients must have at least a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale for the last 60 hours of undergraduate work. They will also be chosen based upon their spiritual maturity and leadership ministry potential. The deadline for application is April 1. Applications are available from the Seminary Admissions Office or the Financial Aid Office. Recipients must be enrolled full-time throughout their program and must maintain a minimum 3.0 grade point average through their entire seminary program to retain their fellowship.

Teaching Assistants

The Seminary provides a variety of assistantships to both new and returning students. These typically involve working 15-20 hours per week, usually for an individual professor at the Seminary or at Lincoln Christian College, as his or her teaching, research, or grading assistant. Compensation averages \$3,200 per year (\$1,600 per semester). Application forms (including a listing of various academic area openings) are available on the Lincoln Christian Seminary website (<http://lccs.edu/College/StudentLife/Employment/tabid/680/Default.aspx>) and are due by April 15th for the following year.

Student Employment

In addition to the fellowship opportunities described above, the Seminary provides a limited number of employment possibilities on campus. Students must qualify under federal work-study guidelines. Students typically may work no more than 20 hours per week on campus. Pay is usually minimum wage. Applications are available on the Lincoln Christian Seminary website (as noted above under teaching assistants). Beyond the campus, the local community provides a wide range of employment opportunities, both part-time and full-time.

Student Ministries

Within a few hours' drive of Lincoln are hundreds of constituent churches that frequently are looking for full-time or part-time ministry staff in such areas as preaching, education, music, and working with children and youth, as well as interim and supply preaching. The Seminary's Church Development Office provides a listing of church needs. Contact the Church Development Office (at 217-732-7788, ext. 2222) for further details.

Student Loans

The Financial Aid Office administers Stafford subsidized and unsubsidized loan programs for Seminary students. A student must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine loan eligibility. The federal school code for the Seminary to be used on the FAFSA is 001708. Contact the Financial Aid Office for application forms and further information or visit the FAFSA website at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Students are urged to be good stewards of their finances in applying for loans, given the limited financial compensation typically associated with the leadership ministry.

Federal Stafford Loans: These loans are sponsored by the U. S. Department of Education and enable qualified students to borrow money directly from an authorized lending institution (e.g. bank, credit union, etc.). Under certain conditions, the federal government will pay the full interest charged on the loan while the borrower is attending school and prior to the beginning of the repayment period. Repayment begins six months after the borrower completes a course of study or drops below half-time status.

Federal Perkins Loans: Under this loan program a seminary student may borrow up to \$40,000, with repayment beginning nine months after the borrower ceases to be enrolled at least half-time.