



**WORLD COMMUNION SCHOLARSHIPS & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANTS  
PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY– 2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR**

The World Communion and Leadership Development programs of the General Board of Global Ministries are to facilitate strategic leadership development across the Church and community in an area of study directly related to one of Global Ministries' four areas of emphasis:

- 1) Combating the diseases of poverty by improving health globally,
- 2) Engaging in ministry with the poor,
- 3) Creating new places for new people and renewal of existing local churches, and
- 4) Developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world.

The programs target students who are related to Global Ministries' mission partners, who have a strong commitment to working with communities in need, and whose education and future work will impact positively in church and community. A mission partner is an institution, whether church, ecumenical or grassroots, with which Global Ministries has an active relationship.

Please review the eligibility criteria of the four scholarship programs as mentioned on the following page. Two are for international (non-U.S.) students, and two are for U.S. nationals or permanent residents who are from communities of color.

**If you fit within all of the criteria of any one of the four programs listed below, please let us know for which program you believe you are qualified to apply and which study degree and field you will be pursuing, by sending an email to [scholars@umcmission.org](mailto:scholars@umcmission.org).**

Once we receive your reply and we have evaluated your eligibility, we will then send you the new information on how to submit a pre-application online as soon as we can and no later than November 2020. Our application process is a 2-step process: the submission of a pre-application followed by a full application. The deadline for the pre-app will be around January 31, 2021, and for the full-app will be around April 30, 2021.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alfiado Zunguza  
Manager, Leadership Development Office



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**OVERVIEW – WORLD COMMUNION**

The World Communion Scholarship is considered the premier scholarship program of The UMC. It is designed to enable the educational preparation of a cadre of church and community leaders around the world so that they may serve in the mission of their churches and communities upon completion of their studies. Areas of study should be related to the four areas of emphasis noted on the previous page. The program is highly selective with approximately 10 - 15 new recipients each year. Applicants may apply for funding for Master's or Doctoral study. World Communion Scholarship recipients should have the probability of offering 5 years of service to their churches and/or communities. For budgetary and contextual reasons, we prioritize students who are studying in their regions of origin.

**WORLD COMMUNION SCHOLARSHIP INTERNATIONAL (WCI)**

- To be eligible to apply for WCI, you must:
- be a citizen of a country other than the U.S.;
  - be a member of The United Methodist Church or a Global Ministries mission partner (as defined above);
  - be a stellar student with a strong commitment to Christian mission and communities in need;
  - be admitted or have applied to a Master's or Doctoral study program in an institution of higher education at the time of application;
  - be able to demonstrate evidence of financial need; AND
  - be endorsed by the Scholarship Committee or appropriate church leadership **from your HOME conference.**

**WORLD COMMUNION SCHOLARSHIP NATIONAL (WCN)**

- To be eligible to apply for WCN, you must:
- be a US citizen or a permanent resident;
  - be a member of The United Methodist Church;
  - be a person from a community of color;
  - be a stellar student with a strong commitment to Christian mission and communities in need;
  - be admitted or have applied to a Master's or Doctoral study program in an institution of higher education at the time of application; AND
  - demonstrate evidence of financial need.

**OVERVIEW – LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

The Leadership Development Grant program is to support the preparation of students who will work in the furtherance of Christian mission in the four areas of emphasis mentioned on the previous page. It is very competitive with a limited number of new recipients per year. Applicants may apply for funding for post-secondary, master's, doctoral, professional, or leadership development study in accredited academic or vocational institutions or lay institutes. [NOTE: NLDG is for US undergraduates only]. For budgetary and contextual reasons, we prioritize students who are studying in their regions of origin.

**INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT (ILDG)**

- To be eligible to apply for ILDG, you must:
- be a citizen of a country other than the U.S.;
  - be a member of The United Methodist Church or a Global Ministries mission partner (as defined above);
  - be admitted or have applied to a post-secondary, master's, doctoral, professional or leadership development study program in an academic or vocational institution or lay institute at the time of application;
  - be able to demonstrate evidence of financial need; AND
  - be recommended by your pastor.

**NATIONAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT (NLDG)**

- To be eligible to apply for NLDG, you must:
- not be an international student – priority is given to members of The United Methodist Church;
  - be a person from a community of color;
  - have a vision and commitment to working with communities in need;
  - be admitted to, have applied to, or be attending an undergraduate study program in an accredited or approved institution of higher education at the time of application; AND
  - demonstrate evidence of financial need.

**Please note: Due to significant funding constraints, it is highly unlikely that we will be able to fund any international undergraduate students in non-theological degree programs through the International Leadership Development Grant until further notice.**

**Deadlines for materials submission**

**WCI, WCN, NLDG, and ILDG: January 2021 - pre-app– April 2021 - full app**

**The following are NOT eligible to apply: 1) Global Ministries' staff (headquarters or field), directors, mission personnel, 2) UMC bishops (active or retired), and 3) family members of any of the above.**

**Invitation to fill out a pre-application or a full application does not mean that Global Ministries will guarantee a scholarship.**