

**LWF Department for Mission and Development
Human Resources Development (HRD)**

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The Scholarship Program for People with Disabilities, which was initiated in 2000, aims to promote an inclusive communion by making education and training more accessible for people with disabilities.

The program provides scholarships in both theological and non-theological areas of study, while enabling churches to include people with disabilities in their planning for human resources development.

Administration and Application

Each year, application forms are sent by the HRD desk to all LWF member churches and national committees. It is their responsibility to select the candidates for meeting their identified human resource needs. Application forms are only available through the LWF member church in the home country of a candidate.

Since the scholarships offered to the churches aim at strengthening the member churches in their various ministries, the application form asks the churches to explain their needs for the study programs in relation to the work of the church.

Applications must be screened and endorsed by a member church or an LWF national committee, and must be listed in a clear order of priority. All applications must be sent to the HRD desk in Geneva, to arrive by an October 15 deadline. Applications submitted by individuals will not be accepted.

The screening of applications is normally completed in December. The decisions regarding the approval of scholarships will be communicated to the respective member churches and national committees during the month of January. Support for approved study programs will begin only for the following academic year.

Please note that scholarships for students from countries in the North will be given only for up to one academic year for studies in Africa, Asia, or Latin America.

In providing this information, we are in no sense committing LWF member churches or national committees to anything. Long-term planning and the process of identifying appropriate human resources needed within churches will determine which candidates will be given application forms for completion and further screening by church authorities.

Disability Ministry Fund

The Disability Ministry Fund aims at mainstreaming people with disabilities into the life and mission of the member churches and the Lutheran communion. During the LWF Tenth

Assembly in 2003, the LWF member churches committed themselves to include differently-abled people in the full life and decision-making processes of the churches.

The Fund provides financial assistance for people with disabilities to participate in LWF and ecumenical events.

Administration and Application

The program responds to requests for assistance presented by member churches or LWF national committees, in relation to upcoming needs. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year.

Applications for these programs require endorsement by an LWF member church.

For further information please contact:

Secretary for Human Resources Development
Vacant

Administrative Assistant
Ms Pauline Smith
E-mail: ps@lutheranworld.org