BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**6301 Greenbelt Road**

**Berwyn Heights, Maryland 20740-2318**

**Tel: (301) 474-7573**

**Gahan Scholarship 2021 Application**

**Directions:** Please fill in all blanks and return all forms required by Sunday, June 6, 2021. To determine awards, the Finance Committee recommends a Gahan Scholarship applicant demonstrate a clear understanding of the applicant’s financial need, impact of financial assistance, relationship to Berwyn Presbyterian Church, and field of study.

**The completed, original application** **(this form) must arrive by the deadline: Sunday, 12:00pm, June 6, 2021.** It may be submitted by one of the following methods:

1. By e-mail to gahanscholarship1317@gmail.com by the Deadline (preferred method);
2. Walked in to the Church Office by the Deadline; or
3. By U.S. Mail (if by mail, the application must be received by Saturday, June 5, 2021).

Address the envelope in the following way to ensure it is delivered properly.

Gahan Scholarship c/o

Berwyn Presbyterian Church

6301 Greenbelt Road

Berwyn Heights, MD 20740

**Personal and Contact Data**: - Please **print** clearly. Form held for evaluation process only.

Name (first, middle, last): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

DOB (month, day, year): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Academic Information** **or Purpose for funding**:

School Currently Enrolled/ Will Attend: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address of School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City: State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Year in School (circle): Freshmen Sophomore Junior Senior Masters Doctoral

Degree or Major sought: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

College Student ID# \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (for student financial account)

College Billing Office Address: **­­­­­­­**

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**Short Answer Questions**: In order for the Gahan Committee to have a clear understanding of your Educational Pursuit, please complete the following information about your educational plans. You may attach one additional page to answer these questions if needed. Please indicate “See Attached”.

1. **Relationship to Berwyn Presbyterian Church:** Are you an Active Member, Child of an Active Member, or a Non-Member? What is your current involvement with Berwyn Presbyterian Church?

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1. **Educational Pursuit (Field of Study):**  What influenced your choice?

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1. **Humanitarian Effects:** How will your goals within your field of study affect others in the future?

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1. **Financing your dream (Need/Impact Statement).** Please provide a detailed estimate of expenses such as tuition, fees, and books. Then, indicate your current anticipated offsets to these expenses such as loans, grants, and scholarships. This information is confidential and used only for the review process.

**For Returning Applicants:**

\*If you have received pr­ior funding, you must submit an unofficial copy of your transcript or grades for the prior school term. You can download this information from your school account, print a copy, and submit with the application.

**Overview of the Gahan Scholarship**

 Winifred Gahan, beloved member of Berwyn Presbyterian Church, donated monies to the Church for the establishment of a scholarship. The Gahan scholarship is a single award for one year. Applicants may re-apply in succeeding years but there is no guarantee that if an applicant applies that they will receive an award. For consideration for the forthcoming school year, all completed applications must meet the deadline listed on the application form.

 The financial planning for education is a personal matter. In today’s technology, both online resources and schools offer college-planning seminars that cover a wide range of topics. It is surprising to some, that college tuition has increased dramatically and some families are not prepared to finance college expenses. So many students search for grants (which are usually sums of money that are not required to be paid back but may have certain requirements), as is the case with some scholarships (that come with standards of performance, whether academic, athletic, collegial, humanitarian, etc) and loans (that may or may not have conditions but are usually paid back with and without interest depending on the terms of the loan).

 The purpose of the Gahan Scholarship and its requirements are unalterable (Need/ Impact, Field of Study, and Relationship to Church); however, this overview may help explain how recipients are determined. At Berwyn Presbyterian Church, the Gahan Scholarship is awarded to individuals who meet the stated criteria and for the purpose of educational opportunities in higher educational institutions or Presbyterian Gatherings. Historically, the Finance sub-committee utilized the revenues of the Gahan Scholarship in order to maintain the corpus of the account. In recent years, the economic forecast has not yielded considerable gains on the principal of the grant and the church has awarded smaller grants amounts.

 Winifred Gahan stipulated that there was to be special consideration for applicants who pursue degrees in Ministry. Whereas a person may have tremendous financial need, the church does not have the resources to fund their entire education. Schools within the state make financing easier on individuals and families. Commuting from home saves housing expenses. However, some fields of study may require travel to another state, thus increasing the need for further financing. Will there be an increased need for your field of study when you graduate? Most students change their major at least once during college and returning to college after you graduate is more difficult than researching in advance. What impact will our grant have on your ability to complete your degree and will your field of study have an impact on others in your community?

If a recipient receives a scholarship but is unable to use the scholarship or is not registered at another school within a reasonable amount of time of granting the scholarship, the scholarship may be rescinded and re-deposited to the Gahan Scholarship account. Continuing scholarships must meet several criteria and demonstrate adequate yearly progress. The decision of the Session based upon the recommendations of the Gahan Scholarship Committee is final. The Gahan Scholarship Committee chair prepares the final letters to applicants regarding the outcome of their applications and the Church Treasurer sends checks directly to the school indicated on the application.

**The** **Application Process:**

1. The Gahan Scholarship from Berwyn Presbyterian Church offers scholarships to individuals who satisfy the stated criteria on the first two pages with the final approval by the Session.
2. Each scholarship is for one year.
3. A completed application received by the deadline does not guarantee a scholarship. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. **(Be sure to include an unofficial transcript if you have already been previously enrolled in college as your application will be considered incomplete if it is not included.)**
4. Sealed applications labeled “Gahan Scholarship” may be turned in to the Church Secretary during the normal business hours of Monday – Friday 11am – 3pm. If you turn in an application on a Sunday, please place it in the file marked “Gahan Scholarships” which will be on the Secretary’s desk. Please put your name on the log-in sheet which is also in the file so that the office will have a record that you placed the application in the file.
5. Applicants will receive an email confirmation as receipt of their applications. Please contact Cara Luther, Gahan Scholarship Committee Chairperson, at 301-237-7702 if you do not receive confirmation of your application within 2 days of submission.
6. After the Gahan Scholarship Committee reviews the applications, recommendations will be forwarded to the Finance Committee.
7. The Finance Committee will review the recommendations and barring no objections, the recommendations will be forwarded to the Session for a final approval.
8. Upon the Session’s decision, the Gahan Scholarship Committee chair will verify student account information and the Treasurer will issue a check directly to the School noting the student account information supplied on the application.
9. Each applicant will receive a letter stating the final decision.