

**The Synod of Southern California and Hawaii PC (U.S.A.)
Racial Ethnic Pastoral Leadership Program (REPL)
Celebrating 36 years of Educational Ministry (1982-2018)**

Our purpose:

To encourage racial ethnic Presbyterians within the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii to prepare for ministry vocations that will serve the Synod and the whole Church. We seek to help prepare racial ethnic leadership to serve the current diverse ministry needs of the Church. We assist the Synod and its presbyteries to provide needed spiritual and financial support for racial ethnic persons enrolled with the presbytery as an inquirer/candidate for Teaching Elder, or with the presbytery and/or session for other professional ministry vocations. Priority for scholarships shall be given to persons pursuing the Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent, or other presbytery approved programs, in preparation for meeting the requirements for various ministry vocations including parish ministry (Pastor, CRE, or CCE).

Qualifications:

*Membership in a PCUSA congregation or in relationship with a presbytery with the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii. Applicant must be under care of his/her church's Session or enrolled with his/her Presbytery as an inquirer or candidate for Teaching Elder, CRE, CCE, a bi-vocational minister involved in emerging new worship communities, or a minister transferring from another denomination. The applicant shall be a member of a racial ethnic group and be willing to serve in a racial/ethnic or multi-cultural ministry within the PC(U.S.A.). The applicant should be enrolled full or part-time in a PC(U.S.A.) related seminary or in a seminary approved by his/her presbytery. The applicant shall be pursuing a Master of Divinity degree, its equivalent, or other approved programs required by the presbytery for a particular area of ministry. The applicant shall demonstrate his/her financial need for scholarship assistance. Ordinarily, expenses must exceed income. The applicant shall maintain "satisfactory" grades in accordance with the criteria set by the committee of his/her presbytery. **NOTE:** Racial ethnic persons with a Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent who are from other denominations in correspondence with the PC (U.S.A.) and are seeking to meet Presbytery's requirements for ordination or transfer may also be considered for scholarship funds if they meet the other requirements of the program.*

The application process:

*Visit the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii website for the application process. Applications are downloadable, in Word or pdf format. (www.synod.org) and you may email Rev. Narcissis Tucker Bishop, REPL Coordinator, on ntucker@synod.org for questions. Recommendations by the appropriate presbytery committee or session is required. Official and current transcripts are required. The deadline for this scholarship cycle is: **April 30th, 2018.***

The Synod Racial Ethnic Pastoral Leadership Committee (REPL) has the administrative and programmatic responsibility for the scholarship program.