



The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Covenant Agreement for Southern Baptist Tuition Rates

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (SBTS) is an institution of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) that is supported by the Cooperative Program (CP), a giving strategy for contribution and distribution. CP funds support the denominational task of preparing biblically-trained Southern Baptist ministers, subsidizing approximately half of the institutional cost for all Southern Baptist students. SBTS students not identified with the SBC benefit from comparatively lower costs afforded by CP funding.

There are two ways that students may receive the SBC Tuition Rate:

(1) **Entitlement** (Prior Church Affiliation): If the original *Church Membership Affirmation* form comes from an SBC church and indicates active membership for a minimum of one year, that student will automatically qualify for the SBC tuition discount as outlined by SBTS.

(2) **Conviction**: Students from a different denominational background *may* qualify to receive the Southern Baptist rate for tuition when they affiliate with a SBC church and affirm a call to service within the SBC. The student must commit to and abide by the *Covenant Agreement for Southern Baptist Tuition Rates*. The stipulations of this agreement are:

- The student must affirm a commitment to pursue ongoing service within the SBC after graduation from Boyce College or Southern Seminary by signing the *Covenant Agreement*.
- **Incoming students** signing the *Covenant Agreement* have one semester to become an active member in a local Southern Baptist church. **Continuing students** must be active members at a local Southern Baptist church before signing the *Covenant Agreement*.
- The student's former pastor must sign the *Covenant Agreement*, affirming that the student has discussed the commitment to align with the SBC.
- The student's current local pastor must sign the *Membership Verification* form to verify good standing (a complementary form to the *Covenant Agreement*).

Covenant Agreements are due by Aug. 1 (Fall), Dec. 1 (Winter), Jan. 1 (Spring), May 1 (Summer).

- Incoming students must submit the *Covenant Agreement* form to **Admissions**.
- Continuing students must submit the *Covenant Agreement* form to **Student Admin. Services**.

For continuing students: After reading, if you can affirm a commitment to ongoing service in the SBC, contact academicadvising@sbts.edu to obtain a *Covenant Agreement* form, as well as, a *Membership Verification* form.