



Council of Bishops
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Application for Scholarship to Attend The Ecumenical Institute at Bossey
Presented in 2026 (for participation in the 2027 Graduate Session)

The Ecumenical Institute was founded by The World Council of Churches in Switzerland in 1946 as an “ecumenical laboratory,” bringing together students of ecumenism from across the Christian community. The Council of Bishops (COB) is pleased to offer an annual scholarship to one student to participate in the “Complementary Certificate in Ecumenical Studies”(CC) through Bossey in conjunction with the University of Geneva. A total amount of \$10,000 US will be sent to Bossey on behalf of the chosen student, with the rest of the funding raised by the student her or himself. Applicants for this partial scholarship must be active members of The United Methodist Church, be between the ages of 22 and 30, be preparing through an approved seminary for vocational ministry in The UMC and be accepted by Bossey into this program. The deadline to receive application to Bossey is in November 2026, so completed applications for this scholarship must be received by the Council of Bishops’ office no later than September 18, 2026. Notification will be given to the scholarship recipient no later than October 2, 2026 so the recipient can complete his or her application to Bossey in time. For more information about the CC in Ecumenical Studies, go to <https://www.oikoumene.org/what-we-do/the-ecumenical-institute-bossey>

If you are chosen to receive this scholarship, then you agree to:

- 1. Take responsibility for your own travel, meals, insurance and application directly to Bossey (this form is solely for a scholarship from the COB. It is not application into the program, nor will it cover all the costs associated with the program.)*
- 2. Write a 3-page report of your experience at Bossey and turn it into the COB office. Include at least 3 photos and send it to jhawxhurst@umc-cob.org, within two weeks of the end of the course.*
- 3. Agree to be spotlighted in information sent out by the COB as promotional material, and agree to present a report to the COB, or its Leadership Team on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relationships, if asked.*

Date of Submission of This Application: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number (with country code): _____

Name of Undergraduate School and date completed: _____

Name of Seminary/Theology School: _____

Year of Attendance: _____ Expected Year of Graduation: _____

Degree in Process of Earning: _____ Age: _____

Vocational Plans (Elder, Deacon, Local Pastor, etc.): _____

United Methodist Church in which Membership is Held: _____

Annual or Central Conference: _____

On a separate sheet of paper, please answer the following with 200-400 words for each question:

1. Why would you be an excellent candidate to attend graduate school at Bossey? (Include any ecumenical experience you have had.)
2. What do you hope to learn from your studies at Bossey?
3. How will you use the experience and information gained to benefit the people of The United Methodist Church when you return home?
4. Why are you are choosing to remain United Methodist?
5. How will you pay for the full cost of the program? (Include all funding sources, including personal and institutional.)

**By signing the below line you confirm you are an active seminary student, member of The UMC and agree to the terms outlined above.*

Signature

Date

Attach the above completed form to the following and email it to Dr. Jean Hawxhurst at jhawxhurst@umc-cob.org no later than September 18, 2026 (late applications will not be considered):

1. Your typed responses to the above questions.
2. A scanned copy of your seminary student ID.
3. A scanned copy of your current passport.
4. A signed statement of reference from an administrator of your seminary.
5. A signed statement of reference from your Bishop.