Dates for Student Admission and Registration

Registration Schedule

Students enrolling for the first time are encouraged to enroll in the fall semester. Many multi-semester curriculum offerings, particularly biblical languages, begin only in August. Students may, however, enroll at the beginning of any of the academic semesters. The Academic Records office will advise prospective students of specific dates.

Deadlines for Application

Application deadlines are published in the academic calendar. Application for admission for associate, bachelor, and master programs, and all supporting documents is best to be received by the Admissions Department at least thirty days before the student’s first registration to allow processing and consideration by the Admissions Committee. Students may register for classes only after receiving written notification of admission approval from the Academic Records office. (Doctoral students should refer to the respective program guidelines for information regarding application.)

Policy of Nondiscrimination

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary admits students of any race, color, national, or ethnic origin. The Seminary does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, national, or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, or other school-administered programs. The rights, privileges, and activities accorded to students are given equally to all students who have been admitted.

Students with Disabilities

The Seminary makes every effort to provide full access to higher education for all qualified students. Students with hearing or other physical disabilities will be given all the assistance needed in order for them to succeed. All facilities on both campuses are equipped with wheelchair access.

Regulations Concerning General Admission

Each prospective student should consider carefully the following regulations concerning admission to the Seminary before submitting any application materials:

Christian Experience and Conduct

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary is a Christian institution whose primary purpose is to provide graduate theological training for effective service in church-related and missions vocations. Applicants to the Seminary must have professed
Christ as Savior for at least one year before registration. Maturity of character, personal integrity, and commitment to Christian service are necessary for acceptable study in the Seminary.

It is required that students preparing for the ministry shall conduct themselves in a manner deemed by the Seminary as consistent with biblical standards of moral purity. In particular, married students are expected to maintain marital fidelity, and single students are expected to maintain sexual abstinence. Departure from biblical standards of moral purity disqualifies individuals for admission to the Seminary or continued enrollment.

**Regulation Regarding Divorce**

The Seminary does not admit anyone as a student who has ever been divorced or whose spouse has ever been divorced. This regulation applies without exception both to those who are innocent parties of divorce and to others. Such a policy does not judge the manner of life of any divorced person. The regulation, however, is established as a witness to God’s original intention for the lifelong covenant of marriage. Matthew 5:32; 19:3–9; Mark 10:5–9; Luke 16:18; and Malachi 2:16 are the primary biblical passages that support this understanding.

**Regulations Regarding Female Students**

The Seminary admits women as students to study only for the associate of Christian education, bachelor of arts in Christian studies, master of arts in Christian education, master of Christian education, master of missiology and intercultural studies, doctor of ministry in missiology, doctor of ministry in Christian education, doctor of philosophy in church history, education, missions, and practical theology (biblical counseling track) programs. These programs are designed to prepare students for ministries in education, counseling, or cross-cultural missions. Degree programs designed to prepare students to serve as ordained pastors (associate of divinity, master of divinity, doctor of ministry in practical theology, and doctor of philosophy in Old Testament [including Hebrew], New Testament [including Greek], theology, and practical theology [pastoral track]) are available only to male students. Female students are welcome to audit or to take for credit any individual course offered in the curriculum for which they are otherwise qualified. This policy accords with the Seminary’s conviction that the ordained pastor of a church must be male. The following is the trustee resolution mandating this: "We believe that God has signally blessed women and has given them a position of honor and opportunities for service." However, we believe that Scripture prohibits a woman serving as pastor of a church. The following Scriptures specifically refer to this regulation:

- 1 Corinthians 11:3 ff. This passage teaches that women are under the leadership of men. (This headship relates to functional relationships, not spiritual standing.) For a woman to serve as pastor/teacher reverses this creation ordinance.