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.