Undergraduate students who are within eight semester hours of graduation from college may be allowed, with faculty permission, to enroll concurrently in the Seminary for a maximum of one semester while completing their baccalaureate degree, provided that all other admission requirements are met.

**Minimum Age**

All applicants to any master degree program must be at least twenty years old by the time of their first registration.

**Conditional Admission**

The Seminary may require students to make up serious deficiencies in their undergraduate studies. All exceptions to published admission requirements must be approved by the faculty upon recommendation of the Admissions Committee. In such cases an applicant will be granted conditional admission. During this period, students are subject to the same limitations as students under academic probation, described under Disciplinary Regulations in this catalog. Conditional admission will be removed after a student completes fifteen semester hours at the Seminary and keeps a grade point average of at least a C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale).

**Non-Accredited Baccalaureate Institutions**

Students are admitted from baccalaureate institutions that are not accredited by one of the regional accreditation agencies within the following guidelines:

1. Students must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale), and it is recommended that their degree should include at least sixty semester hours of liberal arts.
2. Not more than ten percent of the total enrollment in master-level programs may be made up of graduates from non-accredited institutions.
3. Student must have completed the work in resident study. In the case of students who receive their degrees from institutions that offer online baccalaureate degrees, such degrees must be accredited by one of the regional accrediting agencies. The Seminary faculty will consider each application on an individual basis.
4. The Seminary faculty must approve such applicants.
5. Approved students will be on academic probation during their first semester.

The Seminary does not discriminate against students who graduated from non-accredited institutions once they have been admitted.

**Admission to the Doctoral Degree Programs**

In addition to the Regulations Concerning General Admission, applicants for admission to the doctoral degree programs (doctor of ministry and doctor of philosophy) must meet additional requirements. Please refer to the Doctor of
Ministry and Doctor of Philosophy sections of this catalog for specific information regarding admission requirements for doctoral programs.

**Admission Procedure for New Students**

**Admission Classifications**

A regular student is one who applies for admission to one of the ten degree programs offered by the Seminary. A special student is one who applies to take courses at the Seminary but does not intend to complete requirements for a specific degree. Both regular students and special students must fulfill all admission requirements for the academic level at which they intend to register for courses.

**Application Requirements**

The Admissions Committee considers for approval applicants whose files are complete. These sixteen items are described in detail in the following paragraphs:

1. Official Application Form with God-Controlled Life Statement
2. Application Fee (undergraduate and master programs: $35.00; doctoral programs: $50.00)
3. Autobiographical Statement
4. Photographs (two)
5. Health Record Form
6. Immunization Record Form (Northeast campus only)
7. Educational Transcripts
8. Pastoral Recommendation
9. Church Endorsement
10. Personal References (two)
11. Credit Reference
12. Background Check Authorization
13. Miller Analogies Test (DMin and PhD programs)
14. Essay (DMin program only)
15. Major Field Research Paper (PhD program only)
16. PhD Questions (PhD program only)

**Official Application Form with God-Controlled Life Statement**

Application is made on an official form furnished by the admissions counselor or downloaded from www.mabts.edu. Along with the Official Application form, applicants answer questions acknowledging a commitment to God-controlled living over the previous twelve months. The information requested must be provided completely and accurately. It is best for the Admissions Department to receive these forms at least thirty days before registration. (See Doctor of Ministry and Doctor of Philosophy sections for information regarding doctoral applications.)
Application Fee
(Associate, Bachelor and Master Programs $35.00—Doctoral Programs $50.00)

A check or money order payable to Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary must accompany the application. This processing fee is nonrefundable, and it does not apply to tuition or other student fees. (See Doctor of Ministry and Doctor of Philosophy sections for information regarding doctoral application fees.)

Autobiographical Statement

Applicants must complete and submit an autobiographical statement on the official form provided. This statement includes a personal conversion to Jesus Christ, water baptism, calling to Christian ministry, and reasons for seeking to study at the Seminary.

Photographs (Two)

Two passport-style studio-quality photographs of the applicant must be submitted. These photographs should be about 2.5 by 3.5 inches, in color or black and white. (Electronic or photocopies will not be accepted.)

Health Record Form

A physician must complete the official health record form provided in the registration materials. Elements of the form include a statement of the applicant’s medical history and a record of any communicable diseases. The physician should indicate that the applicant is physically, emotionally, and mentally able to meet the challenges of seminary life. Appropriate supplemental medical documents may be submitted or may be requested.

Immunization Record Form

Northeast campus only: immunization records for measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) are required for the state of New York.

Educational Transcripts

Each degree program has a required prerequisite minimum education, which is described fully in the section concerning each degree. In general, an applicant for the undergraduate degrees must submit an official high school transcript or GED, and an applicant for a master degree must submit official transcripts from all undergraduate colleges or universities that granted the student credit for academic study. The applicant is responsible for requesting that official transcripts be sent to the Admissions Department and for all expenses involved. Only official transcripts will be accepted. The Academic Records office of Mid-America reserves the right to judge which transcripts are official and meet the Seminary’s requirements.
International students who apply must note the requirements concerning evaluation of their transcripts described in the section Admission Procedure for International Students.

Pastoral Recommendation

The applicant’s pastor must send a letter of personal recommendation, which must affirm the prospective student’s Christian character and suitability for seminary study. If the applicant is a pastor of a church, the letter may come from another pastor qualified to evaluate the applicant or from a denominational worker, such as the applicant’s associational director of missions.

Church Endorsement

The clerk, or other authorized person, from the church of which the applicant is a member must complete and sign the official church endorsement form in the registration materials. This form certifies that the church has endorsed the applicant for study at the Seminary.

Personal References (Two)

Two personal friends, other than family, must write letters of recommendation. These referents must be individuals who have known the applicant for at least a year; previous teachers are acceptable for this purpose.

Credit Reference

Each applicant must submit a letter of credit reference from a bank or business that affirms satisfactory financial experience. Applicants must verify that they are financially responsible. They must handle their current financial obligations, including student loans, consistent with the standards of the Seminary concerning financial integrity. The Seminary is entitled to secure a report through a standard consumer credit association confirming the credit history of the applicant. Continued enrollment in the Seminary requires continued financial integrity, including acceptable credit standing.

Background Check Authorization

Applicants must complete and sign a background check authorization. This form authorizes the seminary to utilize a third party to search for criminal records.

Added Requirements of Specific Degree Programs

Applicants for a specific degree program must meet all requirements for general admission as well as the requirements for the specific degree program for which they apply. These requirements are listed fully in the sections of this catalog that describe each program.
Time Limitation for Admission

Once applicants have been notified of approval for admission, they have one year from the date of notification in which to register for classes. After one year the application expires, and the applicant must begin the process again.

When Admission Is Declined

Materials relative to application are considered confidential and the Seminary has no obligation to disclose information regarding an applicant’s being declined admission into the program to which application is made.

Admission Procedure for International Students

Applicants who are not citizens of the United States must meet the following additional requirements for admission to the Seminary:

Immigration Laws

This school is authorized under federal law to enroll nonimmigrant students. All requirements of the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the United States must be satisfied before the applicant will be admitted. The Academic Records office will provide international applicants information about the Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student (Form 1 20A-B). Applications from international students are considered by the Admissions Committee of the various programs on the same basis as all other students.

Financial Responsibility

International applicants must submit documents demonstrating funds available or guaranteed support adequate for international travel, educational expenses, and living expenses in the United States. The Seminary will provide a Financial Statement for International Applicants form that must be used for this purpose. This statement also requires certain designated affidavits that must be provided. The Seminary, at its discretion, may require the applicant to submit an Affidavit of Support (Form I-134), which is issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the United States Department of Justice.

The Seminary will not accept financial responsibility for any part of an international student’s support in connection with its academic programs. Beyond the low cost of tuition, the Seminary is not in a position to provide financial support. Students must not depart from their home nation before receiving confirmation of admission approval and the Immigration I-20 form from the Academic Records office. International students are required to meet the financial deposit required by the Seminary. The deposit is refundable to the student upon graduation or withdrawal from the Seminary.