

Messiah College
The Ethel Brandt Bigham Endowed Education Award
2009-2010

This highly competitive award will recognize a junior level elementary education major who has an outstanding service record, exemplary personal characteristics, extraordinary promise, and an interest in teaching in an urban or rural setting at the elementary level. **This is an add-on award and will be added to, not substituted for, any financial aid the recipient already receives.**

One award of \$1000 annually will be made to an exemplary student who plans to make teaching a career and who demonstrates the following traits:

- **Elementary education major. (ECE may apply if pursuing dual certification)**
- **Applicant must demonstrate intent to teach in a rural or urban setting.**
- **Applicant must demonstrate exemplary personal characteristics.**
- **Junior level status at time of application.**
- **Award to be disbursed during the applicant's senior year.**
- **Special consideration will be given to a qualified student who has volunteered/worked in a rural or urban educational setting during the college years.**

The Application Packet Must Include

1. Application Form – secured from the Education Department Assistant, Boyer 410
2. Resume
3. Essay 1
4. Essay 2

Return completed applications to the Education Department Box 3019
Applications submitted after noon on the last Thursday of February will NOT be considered.

Eligibility Requirements of Applicants

A. Academic Performance

- Minimum of 3.6 cumulative GPA.
- Admitted into the Teacher Education Program.
- Minimum of 45 credits completed at Messiah College
- Junior level status at the time of application.

B. Professional Intentions

- *Essay 1* – One or two page essay describing why you desire to teach either in an urban or rural setting, referencing philosophical commitments and life experiences that have informed this choice.
- *Essay 2* – One or two page essay describing the qualities one needs to be successful in an urban or rural setting and explaining how you are preparing yourself to exhibit those qualities. Include personal experiences such as volunteer teaching, camps, retreats, etc. and explain how the experiences are contributing to your preparation.

C. Service and Leadership as Evidenced in Resume

- Evidence of participation in: community involvement activities, college related activities, leadership roles and voluntary service activities.
- Evidence of desire to teach in an urban setting or evidence of desire to teach in a rural setting.

Application Process for Award

1. Announcement of the scholarship will be made annually to the faculty and students, with solicitation for applicants via the Community News (Portal), the Messiah College TV network and the Teacher Education Program Home Page.
2. Complete applications are to be submitted to the Education Department Assistant, who will forward all applications to the Chair of the Awards Committee. Applications received after NOON of the LAST THURSDAY in February, will NOT be accepted.
3. Applications will be screened and evaluated by the Honors Committee.
4. The Honors Committee will conduct an interview with the finalists.
5. Written verification of the award will be completed by no later than the first Tuesday in May.
6. In the unlikely event that no student meets the qualifications for this award, no award will be given that year.

Retention of the Ethel Brandt Bigham Endowed Education Award

If at any time a recipient falls below the award standards, the case will be referred to the Education Department for possible withdrawal of the award.

