



Francis Cardinal George OMI STL Scholarship

Catholic Extension Society Partnership with Mundelein Seminary

Catholic Extension Society and Mundelein Seminary are partnering again to offer scholarships to seminarians who intend to complete a *Sacred Theology Licentiate* (S.T.L.) at the conclusion of their seminary formation. Eligible seminarians will come from an Extension Diocese currently served by Catholic Extension Society. The scholarship will cover **100% of the tuition and room & board** for the four years of the student's seminary education, as well as his fifth academic year, in which the newly ordained student completes his S.T.L. Ideally, candidates for this program are men entering first year theology in 2025. All candidates must be accepted by Mundelein Seminary and must be academically capable of completing an S.T.L. Students will be able to pursue an S.T.L. in one of these areas of concentration: Liturgy/Sacramental Theology, Christology, Doctrine of God, Theological Anthropology, and Theological Method.

Desired Outcomes of the Program Include:

- 1) Students who complete this program will serve as permanent theological resources to their local bishop throughout their priesthood.
- 2) Students who complete this program will be able to serve as competent teachers and trainers in their home dioceses, providing education and oversight for local programs such as diocesan lay leadership formation and deaconate formation.

Each participating organization commits to the following:

Mundelein:

Financial - Mundelein will offer a 25% discounted rate for tuition and room & board fees, per student per year.



Catholic Extension Society:

Financial – Catholic Extension Society will commit to covering 100% of the student’s discounted tuition and room & board for the duration of the student’s seminary and S.T.L studies. This amount will increase by an average of 4-5% each year based on annual tuition rates.

Communication – Catholic Extension Society will communicate the terms of the partnership to diocesan vocations directors and bishops. Catholic Extension Society also will be responsible for providing communications to its contributing donors about the progress of participating seminarians.

Diocese:

Financial – The diocese and/or the student will be responsible for any additional expenses and incidentals associated with seminarian education, such as student fees, health insurance, textbooks, supplies, and travel.

Candidate Identification – Diocesan Bishops who choose to participate in this program are asked to identify men entering their first year of theology who:

- 1) are willing to pursue their S.T.L.
- 2) possess the academic ability to complete this degree.

Scholarship Timeline:

Ordination

↓

Seminary Training

2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Theology One	Theology Two	Theology Three	Theology Four; Year One – S.T.L.	Year Two of S.T.L. as Newly Ordained



Value Summary:

The total 5-year value of this scholarship to the participating diocese is approximately **\$250,000 per seminarian.**

- ✓ Mundelein Seminary's 5-year contribution – 25% waiver for cost-of-attendance (roughly **\$65,000 per student**)
- ✓ Catholic Extension's 5-year contribution – 100% of discounted cost-of-attendance (roughly **\$185,000 per student**)