



Oscar Romero Scholars Program

Sponsored jointly by **Catholic Theological Union** and the **Archdiocese of Chicago**
Application Deadline: **March 6, 2017**

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Catholic Theological Union offers a limited number of scholarships to lay Hispanic/Latin@ Roman Catholic women and men interested in professional ministry in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Individuals must first be accepted to CTU to be considered for one of these scholarships.

Applicants are asked to submit the following to the Director of the Oscar Romero Scholars Program:

1. A completed Application to the Oscar Romero Scholars Program scholarship fund
2. A completed Financial Aid Form
3. Three (3) Letters of Recommendation
 - a) One **Pastoral recommendation** from your pastor;
 - b) One **Ministerial recommendation** from an individual who can attest to your ministerial ability (parishioner, co-worker, client);
 - c) One **Academic recommendation** from an official at the college or university where you earned a degree.

Please submit all documents by **March 6, 2017** to:

Marco A. López
Director / Oscar Romero Scholars Program
CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL UNION
5416 South Cornell Avenue
Chicago, IL 60615-5698

Scholarship awards will be made once the student's admission to Catholic Theological Union is confirmed and registration is completed.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ROMERO SCHOLARS

Participation in the selection process begins with the candidate being nominated for the Oscar Romero Scholars Program. The Scholarship Committee is solely responsible for the review of candidates and the selection of scholars. This committee is comprised of representatives from various key departments of Catholic Theological Union, the Archdiocese of Chicago, and representatives of the Hispanic Catholic Community.

The selection criteria include a review of eligibility on the basis of: **(1) academic background, (2) personal qualifications, (3) ministerial experience, (4) ministerial goals.**

Note: Preference is given to applicants for whom this would be their first graduate degree and those who may have already begun a graduate theological degree but not yet completed 12 credits.

Academic Background:

- The candidate should have earned a bachelor's degree or its equivalent from an approved college or university (CTU's basic academic standard);
- The candidate should have demonstrated a consistent interest in reading and continuing education;
- The candidate should have an aptitude and interest in graduate studies in ministry and theology, especially in ministry in the Hispanic Catholic Community;
- The candidate should be able to demonstrate commitment to persist and complete a graduate degree as either a part-time or full-time student.

Personal Qualifications

- The candidate must be a practicing Hispanic Catholic of the Roman Rite;
- The candidate must demonstrate a strong calling to professional ministry with the Roman Catholic Church;
- The candidate must demonstrate a capacity to engage in faith sharing with parishioners and the community;
- The candidate must possess an understanding of and a commitment to the mission of the Church, including a sense of justice and cultural sensitivity for the community;
- The candidate must be bilingual and bicultural in Spanish/English.

Ministerial Experience

- The candidate is actively involved in church-related ministry;
- The candidate has volunteered or worked consistently in a parish, deanery or church-related ministry within a Hispanic community;
- The candidate demonstrated the ability to work collaboratively and constructively with others

Ministerial Goal

The candidate is committed to ministering professionally in the Hispanic community in the Chicago Archdiocese for at least three (3) years after graduation.



OSCAR ROMERO SCHOLARS PROGRAM
Application for Scholarship Fund

PLEASE NOTE: Completion of this application does not guarantee a Scholarship. Successful admission to one of Catholic Theological Union's graduate degree programs must be achieved before applicant can be considered a candidate for this Scholarship.

Application Deadline: March 6, 2017

Date

Title Last Name First Name Middle Initial

Current Mailing Address (number and street) Apt City State Zip Code

Home Telephone (include area code) Business or Cell Phone (include area code)

Applying for: ___ MAPS ___ Specialized MA ___ M.Div. ___ D.Min.

Enrolling (check one): ___ Full-Time ___ Part-Time

Educational Background

List below all educational institutions you have attended or are attending include course, weekend workshops or seminars related to ministry

| Name of Institution | Course(s) | Degree (A.S., A.A.S., B.A., B.S. or other) | Date degree was received |
|---------------------|-----------|--|--------------------------|
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Employment History

Provide your employment information for the last ten years. List current or most recent employer first. Please use additional paper if necessary.

| Name of Employer | Address | Position | Date of Employment |
|------------------|---------|----------|--------------------|
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Ministerial History

Provide ministerial information for at least the past 5 years. List current or most recent experiences first. Please use additional paper if necessary.

| Ministry (i.e. catechetical, youth) | Location (parish, institution, etc) | Ministerial Role | Dates of Involvement |
|--|--|------------------|----------------------|
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Please answer the following questions:

Do you anticipate a change in your employment status which would affect your participation in this degree program? What arrangements do you anticipate making with respect to your current employer and family responsibilities while you are engaged in graduate studies at CTU?

On a separate sheet of paper, Please answer the following questions in essay form:

1. What inspired your interest in pastoral ministry?
2. What are your ministerial goals over the next five years?
3. Why are you interested in the Oscar Romero Scholars Pastoral Ministry Program?
4. Given your choice of academic program, how do you expect the program to prepare you for service and leadership in the Roman Catholic Church of Chicago?
5. How does the life of Blessed Oscar Romero inspiring to you?
6. Describe the skills and qualities you possess and will rely on to successfully complete this degree program.
7. Describe the type of support you have from your family and parish for participating in this program.
8. Provide any other information about you that you feel the scholarship committee should consider when reviewing your application.

Complete all items as outlined in the application requirements sheet and submit all documents by
March 6, 2017 to:

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