

## **DIOCESE OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS Bement/Waterfield Educational Grants**

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE?** The purpose of the Bement/Waterfield Educational Grants is to help young people who are active in the Episcopal Church to pursue their educational goals after secondary school.

**WHERE GRANTS MAY BE USED?** Grants may be used at accredited training and technical institutions as well as for undergraduate study at 2-and 4 year accredited colleges.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?** Young people who are active members of parishes and missions in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts are eligible to apply for grants. All applicants must have the approval and endorsement of their parish clergy, or in the case of no clergy, the parish warden.

**HOW DOES ONE APPLY?** Applicants may obtain forms from the Diocesan Website at [www.diocesewma.org](http://www.diocesewma.org) Click on Documents and Forms, and then on Grant Opportunities.

**OR**

by writing to the: B/W Educational Grants Committee Diocese of Western Mass 37 Chestnut Street Springfield, MA 01103

**WHEN MAY ONE APPLY?** Applications are available from mid-November through February. The deadline for return of completed applications to the address above is March 1st. In addition, each applicant must have a personal interview with a member of the Grants Committee between April 1 and May 15.

**HOW ARE GRANTS AWARDED?** The Committee, consisting of clergy and lay members of the diocese, appointed by the Bishop, determines the grants in May. Award letters are sent in early June.

**WHAT GUIDES THE COMMITTEE'S DECISIONS?** In awarding the grants, the committee considers candidates on the basis of their journey in faith, participation in their parish, academic dedication and financial need.

**HOW LARGE ARE THE GRANTS?** Grants are awarded from a limited budget and are generally modest. (\$1,000 - \$2,500) In recent years applications have exceeded funds available so it has not been possible to provide grants for all applicants.

**WHO HAVE RECEIVED GRANTS?** In the 60+ plus years that grants have been given, recipients have come from ALL parishes and missions of the diocese.