General – There is one primary form of aid available at Gordon-Conwell Charlotte and Jacksonville campuses—the federal education loan. You may be eligible to participate in the Federal Stafford Student Loan program. This program provides low-interest loans to help students pay for a portion of their education. It is recommended that you borrow for tuition costs only in order to contain educational debt. You must be minimally enrolled as a half-time student in a degree program not “Special” or “Certificate” for loan eligibility. In submitting the financial aid application, you are requesting consideration for student loan eligibility only.

Application Due Date – In order to ensure that student loan funds are available to pay tuition costs when due, your application should be submitted 60 days prior to the enrollment period.

Application Procedure – No action will be taken on an application until the Financial Aid Office has received all requested information and the student has been accepted for admission to a degree program. The following steps should be followed to apply for financial aid (student loan eligibility):

STEP 1
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. If you completed a FAFSA previously, you were supplied with a personal identification number (PIN) by the U.S. Department of Education, allowing you to access a Renewal FAFSA on the web. Refer to the brochure titled “FAFSA Tips” for the information you need to complete the FAFSA electronically or to obtain a PIN.

If it is necessary for you to file the paper FAFSA because you cannot access the web, you can obtain the paper form by calling the U.S. Department of Education at (800) 433-3243.

Charlotte/Jacksonville campus code – E00722

___ Date completed

STEP 2
- Complete the 2012-2013 GORDON CONWELL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY-CHARLOTTE/JACKSONVILLE APPLICATION

___ Date completed

FEDERAL DIRECT STUDENT LOAN INFORMATION

TYPES: (Note: as of July 1, 2012, All Graduate Level students are only eligible for Unsubsidized loans, not Subsidized)

- An **Unsubsidized Direct Federal Stafford Loan** is a low interest (6.8%) Federal student loan available to students that have completed both the FAFSA and GCTS form. To be eligible, a student must be attending at least half-time (4 or more credits registered in Fall, Spring or Summer semesters). Repayment of this loan will begin after a 6 month grace period which is determined from the last day of classes the student has attended at least half-time. However, interest begins to accrue immediately. The student has the option when signing their Direct loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) online to decide whether to pay the interest monthly or to let it capitalize (accumulate) on top of their principle amount. As a graduate student in a Charlotte or Jacksonville degree program, you are encouraged to only borrow funds to cover tuition costs per academic year. If you have been notified that you are eligible, you are not required to access this resource. For more information, go to: [http://studentaid.ed.gov/types/loans/subsidized-and-unsubsidized](http://studentaid.ed.gov/types/loans/subsidized-and-unsubsidized).

- The **Federal Direct Graduate Plus Loan** is a new loan option beginning July 1, 2006. The interest rate is 7.9%. To borrow through this loan program, the student must be eligible for federal aid and must pass a basic credit check, performed by the lender. Students may borrow up to the cost of attendance less all other financial aid. For more information, go to: [http://studentaid.ed.gov/types/loans/plus](http://studentaid.ed.gov/types/loans/plus).
REQUIREMENTS FOR DISBURSEMENT:

- **Mandatory Stafford Entrance Counseling online tutorial** - First time borrowers at GCTS are required to complete online a Stafford Entrance Counseling tutorial online. It may be accessed at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). You will need your FAFSA pin# to access your account to complete the Entrance Counseling. We request you print a copy of the confirmation page once completed and send it to the GCTS Financial Aid office for our files.

- **Direct Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN)** - First time borrowers at GCTS are required to complete online a Direct Loan Stafford Master Promissory Note (MPN) and a Stafford Entrance Counseling tutorial online. Both may be accessed at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). You will need your FAFSA pin# to access your account to Esign the MPN. **PLEASE NOTE:** YOU MUST CHOOSE MA as the State for GCTS, not NC or FL.

- **Loan Disbursement** - Loan proceeds are distributed in two equal portions; one disbursement to be applied to the fall semester charges (first week of October) and the second to the spring semester charges (last week in February), provided a signed MPN, Entrance Counseling and Award Acceptance Statement have been completed. To ensure the availability of funds by the semester disbursement date, it is recommended that completed applications (FAFSA & GCTS application form) be submitted to the Financial Aid Office by the end July for FALL and by the end of December for SPRING. (However, loan requests can be processed any time during the academic year.)

SUMMER LOAN:

- **Summer Loan requests** – Financial Aid awards are generally for Fall and Spring semesters. If you need a Summer loan, please contact the Financial Aid office after March 15th to see what eligibility you have remaining for the current academic year. If there is remaining eligibility, the summer loan request is considered a trailer to the school year. If none, you may complete the Financial Aid application (FAFSA and GCTS form) for the next academic year. The summer loan would then be a header for the upcoming academic year.

DEBT POLICY:

- **Total Educational Indebtedness Policy** - The seminary sets a limit of $40,000 for individual student educational indebtedness, including debt incurred at previous schools you have attended. The Financial Aid Committee will evaluate all loan requests that would take an individual above this $40,000 limit. Your request for loan funds may be denied.

IN-SCHOOL DEFERMENT:

- **Educational Loan Deferment Forms** – The GCTS Registration Office sends information to a Clearinghouse where lenders retrieve information on their borrower’s current school registration status. The Registration submits this information to the Clearinghouse after the last day for add/drop for the FALL and SPRING semesters, BUT NOT for the Summer Sessions. If your lender needs an in-school deferment form for the summer, the Registration Office processes deferment requests for loans. It is the responsibility of the student to request the necessary form(s) from their previous lender(s) and to ask the Registration Office at their campus to complete and submit.

ADDITIONAL FINANCING OPTIONS

Conduct your own scholarship search on the website of The Fund for Theological Education at [www.thefund.org](http://www.thefund.org). Once at that site, select “Other Financial Resources” to find information about financial resources for theological students.

To access other information about scholarship searches try: [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) and [www.collegeanswer.com](http://www.collegeanswer.com)

THE FOLLOWING TWO PAGES ARE THE ACTUAL FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION. PLEASE SUBMIT TO THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ONLY THE APPLICATION. KEEP A COPY OF THE PROCESS POLICIES FOR YOUR FILES.
PART A – STUDENT’S INFORMATION

1. Your name
   Last                                      First
   Social Security #                        I.D.# (if known)

2. Your permanent mailing address
   Number, Street, and Apartment Number     City     State     Zip Code

3. Email _______________________________________________

4. I am a:
   o new student
   o returning student
   o SEMLINK only
   o Online MAR
   o Visiting student

5. Your degree objectives at Gordon-Conwell
   o MDIV    o MA/MTS    o Online MAR
   o SPEC (Certificate students not eligible)

6. Year in which you expect to complete your degree
   o December 2012
   o 2013 Month _____
   o 2014 Month _____
   o 2015 or _____ Month _____

7. Vocational goal _________________________________

8. Denomination _________________________________

9. NUMBER OF COURSES you plan to take each semester/session:
   _____Fall 2012   _____Spring 2013   _____Summer 2014

10. Your actual or anticipated date of marriage (if applicable):
   __________________________
   Month Day Year

   ( Married students and students anticipating marriage before July 1,
   complete Part B + C. All other students should skip to Part C.)

PART B – SPOUSE’S (OR PROSPECTIVE SPOUSE’S) INFORMATION

11. Spouse’s name: __________________________
    Last                                      First

12. Spouse’s occupation
   _________________________________
   Employer
   _________________________________

13. a. Will your spouse be a student in 2012-2013?
    o Yes, full-time
    o Yes, at least half-time
    o No

   b. If yes, spouse’s academic status in 2012-2013:
      o Undergraduate
      o Graduate/Professional

   c. Name of institution
      _________________________________

   d. Tuition and fees $
      _________________________________

   e. Will spouse apply for financial aid for 2012-2013?
      o yes
      o no

PART C – STUDENT’S (AND SPOUSE’S) ESTIMATED 2012 INCOME AND EXPENSES

14. 2012 income earned from work $______________
    (estimated gross income)

15. 2012 other taxable income $______________

16. 2012 untaxed income and benefits $______________
    Student
    $______________
    Spouse
    $______________
PART D – STUDENT’S (AND SPOUSE’S) INDEBTEDNESS

17. a. Spouse’s (or prospective spouse’s) total educational loans $___________________
   b. Monthly payment $___________________

18. a. Do you own a car(s)?  ☐ Yes ☐ No
   b. Make _____________ Year ____________ Model _____________
   Make _____________ Year ____________ Model _____________
   c. Total car indebtedness as of today $___________________

19. Other noneducational indebtedness
   Lender _____________________________  Total Principal Owed $___________________
   _____________________________  $___________________
   _____________________________  $___________________

PART E – STUDENT’S RESOURCES AND STATUS

20. Financial assistance:
   a. from church $_____________  $_____________
   b. denomination $_____________  $_____________

21. Other scholarships
   (not Gordon-Conwell) $_____________  $_____________

22. Tuition reimbursement $_____________  $_____________

23. Veteran’s Education Benefits $_____________

PART F – COHORT PROGRAM RECIPIENTS ONLY

If you have applied to and been accepted into a Cohort program, please indicate the campus and program:

Campus: _____________________________
Program: _____________________________

PART G – TITLE IV PAYMENT AUTHORIZATIONS

I understand that with this application I give authorization to Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary to apply my Title IV Federal Financial Aid proceeds to pay for all current charges billed to my student account. These may include, but are not limited to all applicable tuition, fees and book charges. If student loan funds I receive create a credit balance on my account, I give Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary permission to hold those funds for the current financial aid award year for upcoming terms or semesters, unless I specifically request a refund of excess funds for other educational related expenses. I understand that if a credit balance should exist on my account at the end of the financial aid award year, those funds will be released to me, unless otherwise specified.

PART H – CERTIFICATION

If accepted for Admission to Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and if I decide to attend, I hereby acknowledge that I will be subject to the academic and social rules, regulations, and policies of the Seminary, as well as local, state and federal laws. I certify that, as of the date I sign this statement, all the information supplied to the Student Financial Services office is correct and true to the best of my knowledge. I will contact Student Financial Services should any changes occur. I will use all Title IV money received only for expenses related to my study at GCTS. I understand that my financial aid is based upon anticipated enrollment I supplied to the GCTS. Should I change my enrollment throughout the year, I understand that my financial aid award amounts may be impacted and may result in me owing GCTS for charges not covered by financial aid.

All of the information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. If asked, I agree to give proof of the information I have given on this form. (Provide any additional information necessary to understand your circumstances by attaching a separate sheet.)

________________________________________  Student’s Signature

________________________________________  Spouse’s Signature

Date Completed __________/________/_________  Month  Day  Year