

Northwest University
College of Ministry (COM)
Traditional Undergraduate
Empowering the Future Initiative Details
Continuing Students Enrolled Fall 2019-20

The Empowering the Future initiative entails a number of institutional commitments intended to increase the number of our graduates who enter careers in pastoral ministry and missions. The goal is two-fold—to attract more traditional undergraduate students into COM majors and to enable these students to graduate with no more than a responsible amount of debt—in other words, an amount that is manageable on ministerial income.

Financial Commitment

- Every traditional undergraduate student enrolled Fall 2019-20 who is pursuing a College of Ministry (COM) degree will receive financial aid, not including loans, equal to at least *50% of tuition*
 - This financial aid includes Pell, institutional scholarships, institutional grants, and endowment funding. If these sources do not reach 50% of tuition, an additional discount titled “Empowering the Future” will be given to reach the 50% of tuition amount.
 - This is not a cap; students who qualify otherwise for more than 50% will still receive the higher amount.
 - The discount will be set at 50% of the current year’s tuition at Northwest University.
 - Note: if students receive third-party scholarship greater than of 50% of tuition, the tuition discount will be adjusted so that the total is equal to 100% of tuition.

Eligibility for Tuition Discount

- For all currently admitted traditional undergraduate COM majors in Fall 2019, reaffirmation of their major and acceptance of the new program in writing is required for participation. (NOTE: International students can only qualify once they are fully enrolled; i.e. not while studying English in CELE).
- For those not yet admitted to a COM major as of Fall 2019, they must apply for admission by the Fall 2019 application deadline (15 October 2019).
- Students who wish to change to a COM major and participate in the program:
 - Must complete a COM change of major form and meet with the Dean.
 - Following the Dean’s approval and communication with Advising about the change of major, students will be considered provisional members of COM.
 - Tuition discount eligibility will be available beginning the next semester of enrollment.
 - Students must apply to COM at the earliest posted application date after their change of major (either in the same semester or during the next semester at the latest).
 - Failure to apply and/or be accepted to COM will result in ineligibility for COM tuition discount .

- For all participants, the tuition discount will continue until the student earns 125 credits toward an NU COM degree according to the following guidelines:
 - This discount will apply to a maximum of 8 semesters (Fall/Spring only). The discount does not apply to Summer semester.
 - This discount only applies to Fall and Spring semesters where a student needs 12 or more credits to reach 125 credits. If a student needs less than 12 credits to reach 125 credits, this discount does not apply. Students should plan their courses carefully and utilize the Summer semester to ensure that they complete their degree within the number of semesters the discount is available.
 - All transfer credits that can apply toward the 125 credit degree requirement, must apply.
 - Students must, on average, earn at least 30 credits during every two semester period (excluding Summer). Students who fail to complete 30 credits must take Summer courses to make up the difference. The exception to this is first year students who are admitted on Success standing. These students take only 12 credits their first semester and may complete only 27 credits their first year. These students need to be aware of the number of credits they need complete their degree within the number of semesters the discount is available.
- Recipients will be required to maintain satisfactory academic progress.
- Recipients will be required to participate in retreats, seminars, etc. put on by COM.
- The student will be required to serve a minimum of 5-7 hours per week in a local church during the school year, except for those weeks when they are traveling due to a required class trip or Choralons-related event.
- Students who change to a non-COM major or non-traditional program will no longer be eligible for the tuition discount; participation in a COM major will be confirmed via regular reaffirmations during advising meetings and satisfactory progress in the major curriculum.