



**TALBOT**  
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM  

---

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION



# TALBOT

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM

### APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Biola University • Office of Graduate Admissions • 13800 Biola Avenue • La Mirada, CA 90639-0001  
800-652-4652 • [admissions@biola.edu](mailto:admissions@biola.edu)

#### APPLICATION DEADLINES

*We encourage you to apply four to eight months ahead of your expected residency date. A maximum of 24 students will be admitted to each specialty track. Applicants are typically admitted on a first-come, first-served basis.*

#### INSTRUCTIONS

*NOTE: This form is for D.Min. applicants only. Applicants for other Talbot programs should request the appropriate form.*

1. This application is to be completed and filed with the Office of Admissions. Use typewriter or print legibly.
2. *An application fee of \$45 (non-refundable) must accompany the application.*
3. Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.
4. Three references (forms provided, see instructions)
5. A personal statement of a *maximum* of 2 typewritten (single-spaced) pages detailing all of the following:
  - a. Theological orientation (describe two theological issues that have been central to your personal development and ministry);
  - b. Personal/ministry objectives (comment on the motivating objectives of your life and ministry and how this relates to your participation in the D. Min program);
  - c. Encouragement from others (comment on the encouragement you experience from significant family and friends with respect to your studies);
  - d. Strengths/weaknesses (describe personal strengths and weaknesses that you bring to the D.Min. program).
6. A spouse's statement (for married students only).
7. A statement of support from your current ministry assignment.

#### SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. *International Students* — Follow the special admissions procedures described in the international graduate student admissions instructions. We recommend that international students living overseas allow at least six months for the necessary visas to be processed. TOEFL scores and Affidavit of Support are required.
2. *Divorced/Remarried/Separated Students* — These issues may not disqualify you from seminary, however, they have a significant effect upon your life and ministry. Therefore, please submit a one-to-two page, typed statement explaining:
  - The general circumstances. Include counseling and attempts at reconciliation.
  - Your view of the biblical teaching on divorce and how your situation relates to that teaching.
  - The effect you perceive it having upon your future ministry.

#### AFTER YOU'VE FILED

1. You will be assigned to an admissions counselor and notified, by letter, of his/her name. Any questions you have concerning admissions, financial aid, or housing should be directed to your admissions counselor.
2. You will be notified of items needed to complete file.
3. Upon completion of file and review by committee, an admission decision will be made. Notification of the decision will be sent by mail.

#### UPON ACCEPTANCE

1. Remit required \$100 enrollment deposit payable to "Biola University" mailed to the Doctor of Ministry office.

If your plans change and you do not desire to complete your application or to enroll if accepted, please notify the Doctor of Ministry office at (562) 903-4822.

For more information visit our web site at:

[www.talbot.edu](http://www.talbot.edu)



# TALBOT

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM

### APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Biola University • Office of Graduate Admissions • 13800 Biola Avenue • La Mirada, CA 90639-0001  
800-652-4652 • [admissions@biola.edu](mailto:admissions@biola.edu)

#### INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION

Name in full \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

Home phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Current mailing address \_\_\_\_\_  
NUMBER AND STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Permanent home address \_\_\_\_\_  
NUMBER AND STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Until what date will mail reach you at current mailing address? \_\_\_\_\_

Country of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Race \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Marital status:  Single  Engaged  Married — Date of Marriage \_\_\_\_\_

Have you or your spouse ever been divorced or separated? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, briefly explain pertinent details on separate sheet.

Have you previously applied to any of the schools of Biola? \_\_\_\_\_ Studied at any of the schools of Biola? \_\_\_\_\_

Which school? \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate date? \_\_\_\_\_

Country of citizenship \_\_\_\_\_ Native Language \_\_\_\_\_

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required of all students whose native tongue is *not* English.

Test Date (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a foreign national now residing in the U.S., indicate your current visa status:  Student  Exchange Student

Permanent resident (card # \_\_\_\_\_ )  Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Passport \_\_\_\_\_

#### ENTRANCE DATE

Indicate the date you plan to begin D.Min. studies: Month & Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Specialty Track: \_\_\_\_\_

#### EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

The applicant must request the registrar of each college, university and seminary (including junior colleges, institutes and schools you are presently attending) to forward an official transcript of record direct to the office of admissions. If the program of study has not yet been completed, another transcript must be filed as soon as possible after the degree has been awarded.

List all school attended beyond high school:

SCHOOL	MAJOR	DATES OF ATTENDANCE	DEGREE
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Have you ever been denied admission to, or dismissed from, a college or seminary? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, attach a statement with details.

**REFERENCES**

The applicant is required to furnish three references: one from a clergy colleague, one from a former graduate school professor and one from a lay person in your congregation (agency or board). Indicate below the names and addresses of the individuals to whom you give the reference forms.

CLERGY COLLEAGUE: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

PREVIOUS PROFESSOR: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

LAY PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**STATEMENT OF SUPPORT**

Applicant is required to furnish a statement from a representative of applicant's current ministry assignment indicating their approval and support of applicant's intended Doctor of Ministry studies.

Representative's Name \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**MINISTRY AND EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE**

Name and address of your present ministry \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME PHONE

\_\_\_\_\_  
STREET AND NUMBER CITY STATE ZIP CODE

How long have you been serving in your present position? \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

With what denomination (if any) are you now working? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you ordained? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you licensed? \_\_\_\_\_ When and by what organization? \_\_\_\_\_

What business, occupational, or military experience have you had in the past? (State nature of your work, organizations and dates involved.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List the churches or ministry-related organizations with which you have been involved in the past 10 years. Please indicate the positions, types of duties and dates of your involvement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you believe you will have sufficient time to pursue the D.Min. program with your current ministry involvement(s)? \_\_\_\_\_ Please comment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**CALL TO CHRISTIAN SERVICE**

State what led you to select some form of Christian service as your life work.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How did you first hear about the D.Min. Program at Talbot? \_\_\_\_\_

Which was the most significant factor influencing your choice to attend Talbot School of Theology? (Check one square only.)

- Present Talbot student/friend
- Relative attending or alumnus
- Biola faculty
- Talbot referral
- Alumni
- Visit to Talbot School of Theology
- I was an undergraduate and/or graduate student at Biola
- Magazine advertisement (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (list) \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Name of parent or nearest relative other than spouse. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
NUMBER AND STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Name of spouse or fiancée \_\_\_\_\_ Ages of children \_\_\_\_\_

Is there any family or personal situation which may interfere with your theological studies? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, attach statement with details.

How do you plan to finance your graduate education? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever had professional counseling for emotional or mental difficulties? (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, a statement with details would be helpful.

Is there any handicap for which you may desire special assistance? (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, a statement with details would be helpful.

**STANDARDS OF CONDUCT**

Biola University has long recognized value in maintaining certain behavioral standards that contribute to the atmosphere on campus, foster fellowship with a wide range of Christians and strengthen our Christian testimony to our community. In this light, Biola asks both its students and employees to be supportive of these behavioral standard.

This institute is for earnest Christians who are sensitive to the principles of Christian living found in the Bible. The institution also states certain guidelines for the conduct of Board of Trustees, faculty, staff and students. Although such regulations are not the basis of one's standing in Christ and are not a necessary consequence of it, they can be beneficial to the life and testimony of both the individual and the institution. To this end, Biola expects its members to refrain from gambling and the use of alcoholic beverages and tobacco. Also, Biola does not allow social dancing at university-related or sponsored activities (that is, any activity that involves an identifiable University group, is publicized on-campus, and/or has the appearance of being university-related, whether held on or off campus). Members of the Biola community are expected to exercise discernment and abstain from all activities that tend to be morally degrading. This includes but is not limited to individual decisions regarding movies and television programs viewed and other entertainment, recreational and social activities. Biola University does not presume to be a censoring agency for all activities; however, it does expect tangible evidence of maturing Christian convictions and discerning judgment from its members.

Will you abide by these standards of conduct while enrolled at Biola?  Yes  No

Biola reserves the right to dismiss a student who, in its judgment, does not conform either to the stated regulations governing student conduct or the expressed principles, policies, and the programs of the University.

*In making application to become a student at Biola University I agree with the doctrinal and teaching positions as described on this application (with my stated exceptions); I pledge myself to abide by the regulations of the administration and faculty; to protect the good name of the school; to preserve and protect the physical properties of the seminary; and to cooperate with all members of the University family in maintaining a spirit of Christian fellowship.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

# BIOLA UNIVERSITY'S DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

Inasmuch as the University is interdenominational and yet theologically conservative, the Articles of Incorporation contain a doctrinal statement which is given below:

The Bible, consisting of all the books of the Old and New Testaments, is the Word of God, a supernaturally given revelation from God Himself, concerning Himself, His being, nature, character, will and purposes; and concerning man, his nature, need and duty and destiny. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are without error or misstatement in their moral and spiritual teaching and record of historical facts. They are without error or defect of any kind.

There is one God, eternally existing and manifesting Himself to us in three Persons — Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Our Lord Jesus was supernaturally conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin — Mary, a lineal descendant of David. He lived and taught and wrought mighty works and wonders and signs exactly as is recorded in the four Gospels. He was put to death by crucifixion under Pontius Pilate. God raised from the dead the body that had been nailed to the cross. The Lord Jesus after His crucifixion showed Himself to be alive to His disciples, appearing unto them by the space of 40 days. After this, the Lord Jesus ascended into heaven, and the Father caused Him to sit at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come, and put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him to be Head over all things to the Church.

The Lord Jesus, before His incarnation, existed in the form of God and of His own choice laid aside His divine glory and took upon Himself the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of men. In His pre-existent state, He was with God and was God. He is a divine person possessed of all the attributes of Deity, and should be worshiped as God by angels and man. "In Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." All the words that He spoke during His earthly life were the words of God. There is absolutely no error of any kind in them, and by the words of Jesus Christ the words of all other teachers must be tested.

The Lord Jesus became in every respect a real man, possessed of all the essential characteristics of human nature.

By His death on the cross, the Lord Jesus made a perfect atonement for sin, by which the wrath of God against sinners is appeased and a ground furnished upon which God can deal in mercy with sinners. He redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse in our place. He who Himself was absolutely without sin was made to be sin on our behalf that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. The Lord Jesus is coming again to his earth, personally, bodily, and visibly. The return of our Lord is the blessed hope of the believer, and in it God's purposes of grace toward mankind will find their consummation.

The Holy Spirit is a person, and is possessed of all the distinctively divine attributes. He is God.

Man was created in the image of God, after His likeness, but the whole human race fell in the fall of the first Adam. All men, until they accept the Lord Jesus as their personal Savior, are lost, darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, hardened in heart, morally and spiritually dead through their trespasses and sins. They cannot see, nor enter the Kingdom of God until they are born again of the Holy Spirit.

Men are justified on the simple and single ground of the shed blood of Christ and upon the simple and single condition of faith in Him who shed the blood, and are born again by the quickening, renewing, cleansing work of the Holy Spirit, through the instrumentality of the Word of God.

All those who receive Jesus Christ as their Savior and their Lord, and who confess Him as such before their fellow men, become children of God and receive eternal life. They become heirs of God and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ. At death their spirits depart to be with Christ in conscious blessedness, and at the Second Coming of Christ their bodies shall be raised and transformed into the likeness of the body of His glory.

All those who persistently reject Jesus Christ in the present life shall be raised from the dead and throughout eternity exist in the state of conscious, unutterable, endless torment and anguish.

The Church consists of all those who, in this present dispensation, truly believe in Jesus Christ. It is the body and bride of Christ, which Christ loves and for which He has given Himself.

There is a personal devil, a being of great cunning and power: "The prince of the power of the air," "The prince of this world," "The god of this age." He can exert vast power only so far as God suffers him to do so. He shall ultimately be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone and shall be tormented day and night forever.

*Explanatory Note: this doctrinal statement, presented here as originally conceived by the founders of the organization, has been and continues to be the stated theological position of Biola University. Where "man" is used, referring to the human race, it includes both genders. In addition, the following explanatory notes indicate the organization's understanding and teaching position on certain points which could be subject to various interpretations:*

In fulfillment of God's historical purpose for humanity to rule and establish God's kingdom on earth (Gen. 1:28; Ps. 8:4-8; Matt. 6:10 Heb. 2:6-9), the Scriptures teach a millennial reign of Christ with his saints on earth following his literal return. The nation of Israel, having been redeemed, will play a central role in bringing the blessings of salvation to all nations during the millennium in fulfillment of biblical prophecies (e.g., Is. 2:1-4, 11:1-12; Jer. 23:5-6; Ezek. 37; Amos 9:9-15; Zech. 14; Matt. 19:28; Acts 1:6, 3:19-21; Rev. 20:4-7). Following the millennium, this kingdom will be merged into the eternal kingdom (I Cor. 15:22-28).

Before these millennial events, the believers will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air (I Thess. 4:13-17). The time of this "rapture" is unknown, and thus believers are to live constantly watchful and ready.

The existence and nature of the creation is due to the direct miraculous power of God. The origin of the universe, the origin of life, the origin of kinds of living things, and the origin of humans cannot be explained adequately apart from reference to that intelligent exercise of power. A proper understanding of science does not require that all phenomena in nature must be explained solely by reference to physical events, laws and chance.

Therefore, creation models which seek to harmonize science and the Bible should maintain at least the following: (a) God providentially directs His creation, (b) He specially intervened in at least the above-mentioned points in the creation process, and (c) God specially created Adam and Eve (Adam's body from non-living material, and his spiritual nature immediately from God). Inadequate origin models hold that (a) God never directly intervened in creating nature and/or (b) humans share a common physical ancestry with earlier life forms.

Though there may be many fillings of the Holy Spirit, there is only one baptism which occurs at the time of regeneration. The gifts of the Spirit are given to believers according to the Will of God for the purpose of building up the Church. During the foundational era of the Church (i.e., the time of Christ and the Apostles) God gave special manifestations of the overtly supernatural and miraculous gifts (e.g., tongues, healings, miracles) as "signs" that witness to the validity of those bearing new canonical revelation (c.f. 2 Cor. 12:12; Heb. 2:3-4). Beyond the foundational era, God in His sovereignty may grant any spiritual gift and work miraculously for the benefit of His Church at any time.

The Bible is clear in its teaching on the sanctity of human life. Life begins at conception. We abhor the destruction of innocent life through abortion-on-demand.

## COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS

Biblically speaking, the following behavioral expectations apply to all members of the Biola University community:

1. Those acts which are expressly forbidden in Scripture, including: premarital/extramarital sex, homosexuality, drunkenness, theft, profanity, occult practices and dishonesty will not be practiced by members of this community.
2. Other areas the community is expected to avoid are known as “sins of the spirit” and “sins of the tongue.” These include such sins as covetousness, jealousy, pride, lust, envy, immodesty, impatience, backbiting, enmity, strife, outbursts of anger, factions, bitterness, an unforgiving spirit, slander, discrimination and prejudice (Jeremiah 9:3-9, Mark 7:20-23, Galatians 5:19-21). Although these issues are more difficult to discern, they can be destructive to the healthy functioning of the community.
3. Recognizing the Christian obligation to submit to the governing authorities (Romans 13:1, 1 Peter 2:13), individuals related to Biola University are expected to uphold the laws of the local community, the state and the nation.

*The University has chosen to set a standard of behavior for all students, faculty and staff. In addition to those behaviors and attitudes which the Scriptures specifically praise or condemn, the Board of Trustees has adopted the following statement of community agreements which are a requirement for membership in the Biola community.*

*Biola University is a community of Christians committed to the principles of Christian living found in the Bible and holds that these biblical standards are vital to our individual and corporate relationships. Maintaining these standards contributes to the kind of atmosphere in which quality Christian education and spiritual nurture can best occur, and strengthens the testimony of Biola within both Christian and secular communities. In this light, and given the clear biblical imperative for spiritual self-discipline, the University has established these “standards of conduct” to be observed and upheld, by all members of the Biola community.*

*Consistent with the example and command of Jesus Christ, we believe that life within a Christian community must be lived to the glory of God, with love for God and for our neighbors. Being indwelt by the Holy Spirit, we strive to walk by the Spirit, “crucifying the flesh with its passions and desires” (Galatians 5:24). To this end, members of the Biola community are not to engage in activities which Scripture forbids. Such activities include, but are not limited to, dishonesty, thievery, fornication, adultery, homosexual practice, drunkenness and unscriptural divorce. Scripture also condemns other “deeds of the flesh” such as covetousness, jealousy, pride and lust — sins which the maturing Christian should put off, and replace with “fruit of the spirit”: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (e.g., Luke 10:27; Galatians 2:20, 5:14-24; Ephesians 2:3; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10).*

*As a Christian educational institution, Biola also recognizes the responsibility of its board of trustees, faculty and staff to provide examples of maturing Christian character conduct to its students and the community at large. To this end, participation in certain practices has been traditionally held by the University to be inappropriate for members of the Biola community. Such practices relate to areas of personal discipline and are in keeping with the biblical admonition that Christians glorify God in their physical bodies as “the temple of the Holy Spirit” (1 Corinthians 6:19-20), and that their freedom in Christ must not cause a brother or sister in Christ to stumble (1 Corinthians 8:7-13; 10:23-33). Members of the Biola community are expected to refrain from the use of alcoholic beverages and tobacco in any form, and from gambling. Furthermore, discernment must be exercised in avoiding all activities which may be spiritually or morally harmful. Individual decisions regarding movies, television programs, all forms of electronic media and other activities are expected to reflect this moral commitment. Biola University does not presume to be a censoring agency for all activities; it does, however, expect tangible evidence of maturing Christian convictions and discerning judgment.*

*In addition, members of the Biola community will observe Sunday as the Lord’s Day and give primary attention to worship, rest, Christian fellowship and recreation and service.*

These standards apply to the student while enrolled in any of the schools or programs of the University on and off campus. In addition, these standards apply to the board members during their term of service on the Biola University Board of Trustees, and to faculty and staff during their term of employment with Biola University. Biola therefore reserves the right to discipline or dismiss any student or employee who, in its judgment, does not conform to these conduct standards or to other expressed principles, policies, programs and expectations of the university governing employee conduct.