

Student Ministries, Inc.

Investing in Tomorrow's Ministers Today

The Purpose of SMI...Practical Training

SMI promotes and fosters mentoring relationships throughout the entire seminary career and beyond graduation through a one-year extension to allow for transition into a full-time position. SMI does not deal with the internship or practicum requirements of academic programs, exclusively. Those pursuing graduate training in other ministry related areas such as counseling or missions may also qualify to participate with SMI.

We contract ministers-in-training to perform ministry projects in their cultural setting in order to gain hands-on practical experience while they are pursuing their education. These ministry projects are approved based on the following guidelines:

- affiliation with either a church or a para-church ministry
- involvement with people doing one-on-one discipleship in some way
- securing a seasoned supervisor who will act as a mentor and guide
- and enrollment in at least one class at the seminary or graduate theological level of studies.

The Beauty of SMI...Flexibility & Finances

Students are able to tailor design these ministry projects according to their individual callings and passions. Some students participate in traditional ministry settings. Some participate in non-traditional ministry settings. SMI pays a professional wage for their ministry involvement ranging from \$16.00 per hour to \$28.00 per hour. Students also are able to determine their schedules and perform ministry hours according to their availability or calendaring needs.

The Impact of SMI...Personal and Professional Growth

At SMI, we seek to invest in the next generation of ministers. Our desire is to encourage and enhance the personal and professional growth of these future leaders. In conjunction with fostering intentional mentoring relationships, we seek to empower effective leaders in ministry through providing relevant resources that speak to the inner heart and mind of a minister addressing practical and real issues. SMI wants these future ministers to attain habits that ensure balance and health for a life of ministry and offers a system of accountability promoting their personal refinement, professional development and wise financial and personal management. Through providing a community and resource from which to draw during this time of preparation, our goal is to help increase their effectiveness for future ministry and achieve our vision of investing in tomorrow's ministers today.

The Resources of SMI...Ministry Partners

Ministry partners are those who rally around SMI and offer their support, whether through prayer, expertise or with finances. They play an integral role in praying, providing and funding God's plans. Those whom God has blessed financially have the opportunity through SMI to underwrite ministry projects performed by ministers-in-training to empower them to gain valuable hands-on experience. SMI is an organization that provides a way for students to enlist a team of ministry partners - family and friends as well as churches and organizations to make these tax-deductible contributions. We function as a mission agency enabling students to access a significant income through ministry rather than through secular, unrelated employment thereby assisting future ministers with ministry and living expenses while pursuing graduate theological training.