



Isaiah Project Partners

Frequently Asked Questions

1) What is the Isaiah Project?

The Isaiah Project is a program designed by the Ministry Exploration Team of the Board of Ordained Ministry. The Isaiah Project has three goals: To **challenge** local congregations in the Kentucky Annual Conference to assist in the development of young church leaders, to **identify** and recruit young people (college and seminary age students) for ministry in the Kentucky Annual Conference and to help college and seminary age students **develop** their call to ministry through an experiential service opportunity in a local church.

2) Who are Isaiah Project Partners?

An Isaiah Project Partner is an institution or ministry setting that provides opportunities for a young person to hear God's call and claim or where that call and claim can be further explored and defined. College campuses, camping/retreat centers, seminaries are primary as our desired partners.

3) What are the criteria for becoming Isaiah Project Partners?

a. Camps

Allowing visits/promotion by BOM members/representatives on camp to discuss call: Encourage deans of camps to do a call to ministry talk/invitation during the week; Designate a staff to be in contact with Ministerial Services Office and Isaiah Project representatives to communicate information about persons who have expressed an interest in ministry; Submit names of summer staff to Isaiah Project Team for prayer and support; Identify to Isaiah Project Team staff members who are considering some deeper call to ministry

b. Colleges/Wesley Foundations

- i. Invite BOM members/representatives and Isaiah Project team members to speak on campus and at other events;
- ii. Utilize diversity of forms of communication to nurture a culture of call: Chapel Services, Retreats, Personal conversations, Blogs, Bible studies, Special events focused on discerning call, Regular discussion on involvement in local congregation, Missional opportunities/trips, etc.
- iii. Encourage student participation in and willingness to host Exploration type events
- iv. Identify to Isaiah Project team students who have expressed interest in call
- v. Familiarize themselves with Ordination process and requirements especially Candidacy
- vi. Posting information about Isaiah Project on community message board, other visible places of Foundation/campus
- vii. Name to students the gift and graces for ministry Chaplain/Director sees in that individual
- viii. Invite former Isaiah Project Interns who are on your campus to speak to group

- ix. Partner with local congregations for ministry opportunities for students
- x. Work with Isaiah Project Representatives to nurture call in students who have been identified as wrestling with a call
- xi. Encourage students who are experiencing a call to consider Isaiah project internship
- xii. Provide Isaiah Project team contact information on designated College/Wesley Foundation representative, this is the contact person who can best assist in all areas of partnership with seminary
- xiii. Provide leaders, when asked, for mentor/intern training around specialized topics

c. Seminars

- i. Allow BOM/Isaiah Project representatives to: visit campus, have lunch/dinner, speak in chapel and/or classes
- ii. Post information about Isaiah Project Internships on community message board, other visible places of campus
- iii. Provide field education credit for Isaiah Project internship
- iv. Partner with Isaiah Project to help fund student field education experience
- v. Encourage students to consider Isaiah project internship
- vi. Identify to Isaiah Project team UM students who are potential interns
- vii. Provide Isaiah Project team contact information on designated Seminary representative, this is the contact person who can best assist in all areas of partnership with seminary
- viii. Provide leaders, when asked, for mentor/intern training around specialized topics

4) Who are the interns?

The interns are United Methodist young people who are at least in the summer after their first year in college. They may be college students who want to explore what God is calling them to do in a deeper way. They may be seminary students who are looking for a place to gain experience in a local church setting or seminary students who are looking to see if the Kentucky Annual Conference is the place where God is calling them to live out their ministry.

5) What type things would this intern do?

One thing the Ministry Exploration team has been clear about is their desire that the interns have a broad based experience. This person is not a summer youth or children's minister. The expectation is that the intern will have an opportunity to preach at least once during the internship. S/he should also have responsibilities for teaching a class of some sort. Preaching, teaching, administration, pastoral care, and evangelism should all be a part of the internship. Opportunity to assist in performing the sacraments is also encouraged.

6) How long does the internship last?

There are two options for the length of hosting an intern. They are a summer internship and a school-year internship. The most common will be a summer internship and that is open to college students and seminary students. The summer internship lasts for ten (10) weeks and includes eleven (11) Sundays. It is the understanding that these will be forty (40) hour weeks during the internship. The school-year internship is open only to seminary students who are in need of field education credit. The hours and length of this internship will depend upon the seminaries requirements which could change. Please let us know if you would be interested in a school-year internship and we will work with you to get that set up.

7) Are interns paid for the internship?

Yes they are paid. The Board of Ordained ministry has committed a large portion of its programming budget to the Isaiah Project. They are partnering with Nurturing Congregations in order to offer as diverse experience as possible. A

college intern for the summer will receive a salary of \$4,000. A seminary intern will receive a salary of \$6,500 for the ten (10) week period. If interns are appointed to a church where they are unable to live with family, housing will also be provided. They will also be reimbursed for any business travel expenses. For school-year interns we will work within the bounds of the student's seminary as to salary, hours, etc.

8) If we want to become an Isaiah Project Partner what is the process?

Go to www.isaiahprojectumc.com and complete the application form that you will find there. It will automatically be forwarded to the Board of Ordained Ministry.

9) If we have more questions who should we call?

Call the Office of Ministerial Services at the Annual Conference office. 800-530-7236 ext. 308.