

MDiv COLLABORATIVE Learning Program



PROCESS for Student Entrance/Placement

1.

Student Applies

A student applies to the MDiv Program at Wartburg Seminary with preference for the Collaborative Learning Program.

When an application for this program is received the seminary will contact the student's synod of candidacy. (See #3).

2.

Student Proceeds with Candidacy Process

Student must be entranced to MDiv program before beginning program. WTS recommends that students pursue candidacy for the Distributed and Collaborative program while congregation placement conversations occur.

3.

Synod and Seminary Discuss Possibilities for Prospective Student

1. Synod approves student for program.
2. Seminary and synod discuss options for sites/site supervisors.
3. Synod approaches potential congregations for initial conversation.
4. Synod and Seminary work together to present program and costs to congregation.

4.

Congregation Reviews Commitments and Submits Intent Form

This form signifies an intent to participate as a learning site, agreement to the financial commitment, and provides details about the congregation to assist the seminary in coordinating placement of a student.

In some cases the student may be introduced to the congregation or the supervisor prior to placement.

5.

Team Meeting

Prior to placement of student in the Collaborative Program, the seminary will facilitate a meeting with representatives from the synod, the seminary, and the site supervisor to:

1. Discuss student support and commitment of all partners.
2. Create a learning contract.

A similar meeting will be held annually.

6.

Student Placement Meeting

The student and the Dean for Vocation will meet to review the support commitments and learning contract. When the student agrees to the learning contract the placement process is finalized and the student and supervisor will work together to begin a start date, etc.

7.

Educational Team Meeting

The student, the academic advisor, and the supervisor will meet to discuss learning objectives prior to the beginning of the semester and once per semester throughout the program.

8.

Student Begins Collaborative Learning Program

The partners all play a key role in the formation of the student throughout the 4 year program. Ongoing support and conversation is encouraged.

This process may look different for different types of situations. For example, if a student is already working in a congregation the placement aspect is less involved but the synod will play an important role in ensuring that the congregation is an appropriate match for this program.

In other cases, congregations may identify themselves as a potential site first and wait until a candidate for this program is identified.