

# What seminary can do for you

## QUICK FACTS

### Presbyterian Seminaries

There are **10** Presbyterian seminaries and **2** theological institutions related to the denomination by covenant agreement.

#### THE PURPOSE OF OUR SEMINARIES

To provide an educational foundation in the Reformed tradition needed to preach, teach, pray, and lead

- ✓ Seminaries prepare a diverse group of men and women to be pastors, educators, missionaries, chaplains, and musicians for congregations.
- ✓ Seminaries provide continuing education and advanced degree programs for ministers of the Word and Sacrament and for lay church leaders.

✓ Seminaries are centers for theological discourse, reflection, and research for the benefit of the wider church in changing times.

#### HOW SEMINARIES ARE FUNDED

Seminaries have income from tuition, gifts, bequests, and endowments. They also have two sources of denominational funding:

- ✓ **Congregations** voluntarily contribute up to 1% of their operating budget to the Theological Education Fund. Funds are allocated each year to the seminaries.
- ✓ **Individuals** make gifts and bequests to the Theological Schools Endowment Fund.

**Donate**

INFOGRAPHIC BY JEFFREY LAWRENCE

**D**o you live near a PC(USA)-related seminary? Besides providing congregations with theologically trained pastors and serving as centers for discourse and research, seminaries have much to offer Presbyterians. They provide continuing education for pastors and lay leaders, and they often offer workshops, retreats, lectures, and other special events that are open to the public.

But that is not how most Presbyterians engage with their local seminaries. More likely, someone from the seminary comes to their congregation. About a third of Presbyterians (on average) have had at least one intern from a PC(USA)-related seminary serve in their congregation within the past five years. Additionally, almost half have had a speaker from a PC(USA)-related seminary visit their congregation to preach, teach, lead worship, sing, or speak.

Nevertheless, most Presbyterians are hard-pressed to identify any PC(USA)-related seminary besides Princeton, a name recognized by about two-thirds. This is probably because most Presbyterian congregations are small, while most of the seminary interactions occur with larger congregations. This is unfortunate, since smaller congregations could really benefit from the many resources that seminaries have to offer.

Survey respondents expressed particular interest in seminary-generated Bible studies and devotional materials.

For more information on ways that you can engage with PC(USA)-related seminaries, visit [pcusa.org/seminaries](http://pcusa.org/seminaries).

» Other findings: [pcusa.org/research](http://pcusa.org/research)