

# PUBLIC CHURCH SCHOLARS

Augsburg University and Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

WE ARE CALLED | AUGGIES

## 5 YEARS, 2 DEGREES

The **Public Church Scholars** five-year degree pathway prepares students to be intentional leaders of a multiracial, multiethnic, public church. In this educational pathway, students will take a deep dive together in Christian community to explore theological education, leadership formation, experiential learning in an internship, and preparation to be public leaders in the church. Students in this pathway will complete two degrees in five years: a Bachelor of Arts in Theology and Public Leadership from Augsburg University and a Master of Divinity from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.



## HOLISTIC APPROACH

At Augsburg University, Public Church Scholars learn to practice and lead accompaniment, interpretation, discernment, and proclamation, and this framework supports their preparation to be pastors and leaders in the church. This work is enhanced and deepened at seminary. LSTC's curriculum cultivates competencies for leadership in a public church and focuses on community engagement, public witness, and social transformation. This holistic approach to theological education breaks academic disciplines out of their silos and allows creative collaboration to flourish.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AFFORDABILITY

This pathway addresses barriers of the overall cost of education and reduces the length of time required to complete a pastoral leadership degree: five years instead of eight. This pathway also provides college access to the ministry profession for students from underrepresented groups. We are committed to significantly reducing debt for the student when entering candidacy, seminary, and then ministry.

Students accepted to the PCS cohort are eligible to receive the Regents Scholarship, which is a minimum of \$18,500. This award is not stackable with other merit scholarships. Accepted students will also receive an additional PCS scholarship (\$1,500–2,500) that is renewable as long as students are enrolled in the PCS pathway and are in good academic standing. Students in the PCS cohort will also receive financial aid for seminary tuition in their third, fourth, and fifth years.

## UNIQUE ELEMENTS OF THE PCS PATHWAY:

- Four years of part-time, paid contextual learning and internship in a congregation
- Spanish language and theological study in Mexico
- Training in equity and inclusion, cultural competency, and vocational discernment
- Cocurricular formation including a supportive cohort of peers
- Spiritual direction practice (individual and group)
- Life coaching and professional mentors
- Accompaniment through the candidacy process for ordination
- Completion of Clinical Pastoral Education
- Distance learning and Intensive seminary classes

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Lutheran School of  
Theology at Chicago

AUGSBURG  
UNIVERSITY.

[augsborg.edu/religion/public-church-scholars](https://augsborg.edu/religion/public-church-scholars)

To find out more or to enroll in the PCS pathway,  
contact **Adrienne Kuchler Eldridge**:

eldridge@augsborg.edu  
612-330-1412

## ENROLL NOW

Emerging leaders who are discovering their own gifts for church leadership, and who are curious about how the church is responding to God's call in the world, can enroll now. Our team is committed to identifying, recruiting, and enrolling a diverse and hopeful cohort of emerging leaders to serve in the public church for the sake of the world.