



## 2018 Goals and Accomplishments

Please describe accomplishments, relative to each of your convention assigned Ministry Assignments, in the past year that create "value added" to the Cooperative Program dollars that Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary receives.

**I. Assist churches by programs of prebaccalaureate and baccalaureate theological education for ministers.**

During the 2016-2017 school year, Southwestern invested Cooperative Program dollars in the education of 505 Southern Baptist undergraduate students. 45 of these students graduated over the course of this year. All of Southwestern's undergraduate programs prepare students for ministry among the local churches of the Southern Baptist Convention.

**II. Assist churches by programs of master's level theological education for ministers.**

During the 2016-2017 school year, Southwestern invested Cooperative Program dollars in the education of 2,340 Southern Baptist master's level students. 361 of these students graduated over the course of this year. All of Southwestern's master's programs prepare students for ministry among the local churches of the Southern Baptist Convention.

**III. Assist churches by programs of professional doctoral education for ministers.**

During the 2016-2017 school year, Southwestern invested Cooperative Program dollars in the education of 281 Southern Baptist professional doctoral students. 25 of these students graduated over the course of this year. All of Southwestern's professional doctoral programs prepare students for ministry among the local churches of the Southern Baptist Convention. The majors in these programs are especially focused on local church ministry, including areas like expository preaching, evangelism, and biblical counseling.

**IV. Assist churches by programs of research doctoral education for ministers and theological educators.**

During the 2016-2017 school year, Southwestern invested Cooperative Program dollars in the education of 298 Southern Baptist research doctoral students. 23 of these students graduated over the course of this year. All of Southwestern's research doctoral programs prepare students for either ministry among the local churches of the Southern Baptist Convention or for service as professors and administrators among the seminaries and other arms of the Southern Baptist Convention.

**Based on each of SWBTS' Convention assigned ministry statements, what opportunities or challenges do you see on the horizon from 2018 and beyond that would necessitate changes, or new directions, in how SWBTS is accomplishing the above Ministry Assignment?**

**I. Assist churches by programs of prebaccalaureate and baccalaureate theological education for ministers.**

Discerning the need to equip baccalaureate students for ministry in a changing culture, Southwestern is offering and assessing the effectiveness of the Bachelor of Arts in Humanities and Biblical Studies. This degree provides students with intense training in both the history of Western thought and the Bible, to better prepare them for ministry among the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention.

**II. Assist churches by programs of master's level theological education for ministers.**

Southwestern continues to experience significant growth in its online student population. During the 2016-2017 school year 1,118 Southern Baptist students received the majority of their education through Southwestern online. This area of growth has necessitated further training for faculty and students in the use of technology. The institution's Office of Academic Technology Support continues to ensure online teaching and learning provide the best possible education for the institution's distance students. Online theological education presents both an opportunity for greater influence and the challenge of new educational methods.

**III. Assist churches by programs of professional doctoral education for ministers.**

Professional doctoral education faces the challenge of encouraging students who are already serving in key leadership positions in local churches to complete the program in the midst of busy schedules. The director of these programs continues to explore new methods of engaging both new students and those who have been enrolled in the program for multiple years. The institution views this challenge as an opportunity to further prepare God's called for local church ministry.

**IV. Assist churches by programs of research doctoral education for ministers and theological educators.**

Southwestern's flexible access PhD program affords Southern Baptists the opportunity for research doctoral education from anywhere in the world. This program is being conducted under approval for an educational experiment with the Association of Theological Schools. First and second year data indicated high-level learning among both resident and distance students. The institution will continue to evaluate the success of the program for PhD students who cannot move to campus for study, many of them IMB missionaries and SBC pastors.