



For U.S. citizens and permanent residents

AMBS Admissions Application Fields

To assist you in preparing to complete the online AMBS Admissions Application, the content of the application appears on the following four pages so that you can know which information you will be asked to supply. The application software will automatically save your work, so you can complete the form in installments if needed. Please note that this document is not the actual application form; applicants must use the online form.

Name and contact information

First name Required
Middle name
Last name Required
Maiden name, if applicable
Preferred name Required
Current home address Required
Preferred mailing address
(If different than above)
Telephone number Required
Phone type Required
Email address Required

Personal data

Date of birth Required
Gender Required
Social Security Number Required
Citizenship Required
Marital status
Name of spouse
Names of minor children

If you are moving to campus or relocating to the Elkhart area and have minor children accompanying you, please enter their information (name, date of birth, and gender) here.

You are invited to complete the two items below about place of birth and ethnic background on a voluntary basis; they are being asked so that statistical information for the Association of Theological Schools of North America (ATS) may be compiled. This information will not be used as criteria for admission. AMBS will make decisions regarding admission to study at AMBS without discrimination on the basis of age, race, religion, physical disability, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or gender.

Birthplace (city and state)

Ethnic background

Answer only if you are a U.S. citizen.

- Visa or Nonresident Alien
- Black Non-Hispanic
- Native American, Alaskan Native, Inuit, or First Nations
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Hispanic
- White Non-Hispanic
- I prefer not to answer this question.

How did you become acquainted with AMBS?

Required

Reason for applying

Required

What was most important in your decision to apply to AMBS?

Academic objectives

Select the program and concentration for which you are applying.

Program of study Required

- Master of Divinity Campus
- Master of Divinity Connect
- Master of Arts in Christian Formation
- Master of Arts: Theology and Global Anabaptism
- Master of Arts: Theology and Peace Studies
- Graduate Certificate in Spiritual Direction
- Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies

Indicate MDiv Major or MATPS Concentration

When and where do you plan to begin studies?

Term Required

(Note: The option to start in Semester Two is only open to Graduate Certificate students.)

Location Required

Intended enrollment status Required

Religious affiliation

Current denomination Required

Current conference/regional church

Current congregation Required

Previous denomination, if applicable

Previous conference/regional church, if applicable

I am (choose any/all that apply) Required

- Licensed for ministry
- Ordained for ministry
- Not credentialed

Personal essay

Application essay

Please submit a personal essay (1,200 to 1,800 words, double-spaced) describing your desire to pursue a graduate theological degree at AMBS. Detail experiences and influences that have led you to seek a seminary education; ways that you believe this degree program will help you meet your vocational, educational and spiritual goals; and your understanding of the level of commitment this will

require. Include in your answer an assessment of your gifts and abilities and how you expect to grow. This should reflect your best work, and it must be your own writing. Short phrases pulled from other sources may be used only if they are cited correctly.

Essays may be uploaded here or sent via email attachment (Microsoft Word document or PDF) to admissions@ambs.edu.

Academic background

Please list all colleges, universities and seminaries attended.

Name of Institution 1 Required

Location of Institution 1 Required

Attended from (month/year) Required

Attended to (month/year) Required

Degree granted Required

Degree and major Required

Name of Institution 2

Location of Institution 2

Attended from (month/year)

Attended to (month/year)

Degree granted

Degree and major

Additional institutions

Academic awards

Academic dismissal Required

Have you ever been dismissed or suspended from an academic institution?

Work experience

Briefly describe any work and volunteer experience, especially that which contributes to your academic and vocational goals. We are interested in knowing about work you have done inside and/or outside a church setting, e.g., Christian education, preaching, church music, youth work (summer youth camps, etc.), community service, social work, etc.

Work experience Required

List names of churches/agencies, tasks performed and time spent in each place.

References

Applicants to AMBS are required to have references in support of their goals for seminary study and/or their sense of call to ministry. Please list the names of (1) a pastor or conference minister, (2) a college professor, academic advisor or someone who can evaluate your reading and writing ability, and (3) a colleague who can provide this kind of reference for you. (If you completed your most recent education more than 10 years ago, you may choose to supply an employer reference in lieu of an academic reference.) We will send the appropriate reference form to each person using the email addresses you provide below.

We do not accept references from a spouse or relative.

CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT: It is the policy of AMBS that reference forms are kept confidential, are not made available to the applicant, and are destroyed once we have made a decision about admission and scholarships (if applicable).

Pastoral reference name Required
Pastoral reference email address Required
Academic reference name Required
Academic reference email address Required
Layperson reference name Required
Layperson reference email address Required

Housing

Please select your housing plans: Required
Date when you would need housing Required
To arrange for campus housing, please complete a Housing Application and submit a deposit.
Applications can be found at:
ambs.edu/admissions/housing-application

Emergency contact

Please provide the name and information of someone we should contact in case an emergency arises while you are an AMBS student.

Name (first and last) Required
Relationship Required
Address Required
Telephone number Required
Phone type Required
Email address Required

Criminal history

Have you ever been convicted of a crime?
(not including a minor traffic violation) Required
Details and explanation

Background check

As a condition of admission, an applicant will be required to authorize Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) to obtain a background check. If the results of the background check are not deemed acceptable, AMBS will evaluate the results based on the nature of the violation and extenuating circumstances. (AMBS does not automatically deny admission based on minor offenses.)

Any information provided by the applicant regarding his or her background check will be included for consideration in his or her application for admission. If the applicant is admitted, AMBS will store a copy of the background check in the student's file in perpetuity, either on paper or digitally archived. If the applicant is not admitted, AMBS will store the entire application, including the background check, in the seminary's admissions files for a period of two years, after which the application will be destroyed in its entirety.

Please complete the following two forms and return them to the Admissions Office via email (admissions@ambs.edu) or postal mail:
AMBS Admissions Office
3003 Benham Avenue
Elkhart, IN 46517-1947

Background Check Consent.docx
FCRA Disclosure Form.docx

AMBS Mission and Values

Admission to AMBS assumes a commitment on the part of every student to join and participate in a community devoted to theological education and preparation for ministry, worship, study and the life of Christian faith. This community, whether on campus or at a distance, is part of and accountable to the church of Jesus Christ, the Anabaptist-Mennonite tradition, and the seminary's sponsoring churches (Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite Church USA). It is understood that all members of the seminary community will respect the confessions,

convictions, values and commitments of the tradition and the churches that AMBS serves, and will respect other traditions represented in the community and in the places where members minister and learn. It also is understood that members of the community will respect the core values of AMBS and the seminary's commitment to antiracism and welcoming Christians of diverse traditions and ethnicities.

To read the mission and values of AMBS, visit www.ambs.edu/about.

Acknowledgment of requirements and commitment

I have read the information above and understand the mission and values of AMBS (www.ambs.edu/about). My filing of this application indicates my willingness to cooperate with the standards and purpose of the seminary. I agree to withdraw my enrollment should I find myself unable to support them.

Acceptance of above statement Required

To indicate your acceptance, please type your full name in the box below.

Application fee waiver

If you recently attended a conference at AMBS, please indicate the name of the conference here. Your application fee will be waived if you complete your application within 30 days of the conference.

Application fee

The nonrefundable application fee of \$50 may be paid in the form of a check or money order, or by using VISA, MasterCard or Discover. To make a payment or for further instructions about sending a check, please visit ambs.edu/admissions/application-fee-payment.

Your application is not complete until we receive your payment.

Pay online with credit card

To submit the \$50 nonrefundable application fee online with a credit card, go to: ambs.edu/admissions/application-fee-payment

Call AMBS with credit card information

To submit the \$50 nonrefundable application fee by phone using a credit card, please call 800-964-2627 ext. 0 and have your credit card ready.

Pay with PayPal

To pay via PayPal, go to: ambs.edu/admissions/application-fee-payment

Pay with a personal check

To pay by check, please send the \$50 nonrefundable application fee payable to "AMBS" to:
AMBS Admissions Office
3003 Benham Avenue
Elkhart, IN 46517-1947

Please indicate your full name on the check.

If you have any questions about the information that is required for the Admissions Application, please contact Enrollment and Financial Aid Specialist Teresa Thompson Sherrill at tsherrill@ambs.edu or 800-964-2627 ext. 227.

6-15-2022