



ST VLADIMIR'S ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
575 Scarsdale Rd, Yonkers, NY 10707 • [www.svots.edu](http://www.svots.edu) • 914-961-8313 • fax 914-961-4507

## *Application Instructions 2017-2018*

*"We cannot become like God unless we have knowledge of Him,  
and without lessons, there will be no knowledge"*

St Basil the Great

Thank you for your interest in applying to St. Vladimir's!

In this document, we have provided some general information about applying to St. Vladimir's and a checklist to ensure that you submit all the necessary materials. Please fill out and submit the general application form and the form of the program in which you seek to enroll. These are found on the Admissions page of the seminary website.

As part of the admissions process, every applicant will complete the following:

- Interview with Director of Admissions
- Interview with the corresponding Program Director
- Criminal background check

### **Submitting Application Materials**

Completed application materials may be sent via surface mail, or PDF's of the completed application may be sent to the Office of Admissions via email. Letters of reference and transcripts may be sent in hard copy, or electronically, but must come from the school or person writing the recommendation.

### **Personal Interviews**

Once your application has been received you will need to arrange for personal interviews. To arrange your interviews, please contact the Director of Admissions at 914.961.8313 ext. 322 or by email ([admissions@svots.edu](mailto:admissions@svots.edu)).

### **Background Checks**

All degree applicants must undergo a criminal background check. Once an applicant has submitted all of the required application material, the Director of Admissions will conduct the background check. The cost of the background check is included in the application fee.

**International Applicants.** In addition to meeting the above requirements, international applicants whose native language is not English must demonstrate proficiency in the English language by taking the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The minimum TOEFL scores (internet-based) required of applicants to the seminary are 96 (MDiv), 100 (MA), 104 (ThM; MDiv-E; DMin). To register for the TOEFL, visit the website of the Educational Testing Service: [www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org). The TOEFL code for St Vladimir's Seminary is **2804**. The TOEFL exam will be waived only for students who have completed an earlier degree at an English-speaking institution in a country where English is the primary spoken language. IELTS test scores are also acceptable; please contact the Office of Admissions for further information.

Upon admittance international applicants must complete the Certification of Financial Support for INS Form I-20 (this form is available online at [www.svots.edu](http://www.svots.edu) in January) and submit the required deposit.

For MDiv-E International students: Because the MDiv-E is not a degree program students accepted into the program will need to secure a non-immigrant visitor's visa to the United States for the respective dates of on-campus intensive courses.

All applicants for financial aid must complete the Financial Aid Application Form. Citizens and permanent residents of the United States must also complete online the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form ([www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)).

**Deadlines.** St. Vladimir's operates a rolling admissions procedure beginning February 1<sup>st</sup> and ending June 1<sup>st</sup>. Complete applications received during this period will be acted upon during the month following their receipt. **Note, however, that the deadline for all financial aid applications, including need-based grants, need-based scholarships and merit-based scholarships is April 1.** Applications for financial aid submitted after this date may be considered, but only if funds remain available, and/or on a wait-listed basis. Notifications of financial aid awards are normally issued with offers of admission.

*DMin:* Students are accepted into the Doctor of Ministry Program as members of a cohort of approximately fifteen students, and normally, a new cohort is formed every two years. (2016, 2018, 2020, etc.) The application deadline is May 1 of the year the new cohort is being formed. Qualified applicants who apply prior to the May 1 deadline will be notified of their inclusion in the next cohort within one month of receipt of application materials.

*MDiv-E:* Students are not part of a cohort, but are included with small group of residential and non-residential MDiv students. Application deadlines are the same.

**Housing.** Applications for housing (single-student dormitory housing or married-student apartments) are made directly to the Associate Dean of Student Affairs. Housing application forms and instructions may be found online at [www.svots.edu/admissions/housing](http://www.svots.edu/admissions/housing).

**PLEASE DO NOT STAPLE ANY PART OF YOUR APPLICATION  
PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION ON SINGLE-SIDED SHEETS ONLY**

**Please email applications to [admissions@svots.edu](mailto:admissions@svots.edu) or mail completed application materials to:  
Director of Admissions, St Vladimir's Seminary, 575 Scarsdale Road, Yonkers, NY 10707**

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

### *Requirements for applications to all degree programs:*

- Application form, completed and signed
- Digital photograph (full face, preferably 2.5" x 2.5")
- \$75 application fee
- Copy of certificate of Baptism/Chrismation
- Three letters of recommendation
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended
- Personal essay
- Personal interviews (please contact the Office of Admissions to make arrangements for your interviews)

### *Program specific requirements:*

#### *MDiv*

- Spiritual autobiography
- Hierarchical blessing (**in addition to** the three letters of recommendation specified above)

#### *MA*

- Hierarchical blessing (optional)

#### *ThM*

- Thesis proposal
- Hierarchical blessing (optional)

#### *DMin/MDiv-E*

- Personal Essay
- Completed and signed External Review Committee Membership forms
- Hierarchical blessing (in addition to three letters of recommendation)

### *Additional requirements for international students:*

- TOEFL scores (if native language other than English)
- Certification of Financial Support for INS Form I-20 (to be submitted upon admittance)

### *Requirements for financial aid applications (optional):*

#### *US citizens and permanent residents*

- Financial Aid Application Form
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, completed online ([www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov))

#### *Non-US citizens*

- Financial Aid Application Form