Application Guidelines

General: The Registrar's Office, with oversight from the Admissions and Standards Committee, will examine the academic, professional and ministry background of each applicant. If it is determined that an applicant would benefit from further study in a particular area, a learning plan will be developed which could include specific seminary electives or additional courses from another academic institution.

MDiv, MTS, and MA (including Empower CBTE): Typically we require a bachelors degree (or its equivalent) from an accredited institution and have a grade point average of 2.67 (B-) or higher. Due to special circumstances, an applicant without a bachelor's degree may be considered, as is allowed by the Association of Theological Schools.

A strong liberal arts education provides an excellent foundation for graduate level theological education. A liberal arts education shapes well-rounded, intellectually and culturally astute graduates. Therefore, it is recommended that a candidate's baccalaureate preparation consist of courses in the liberal arts, including English, philosophy, history, literature, social science and natural science.

Non-native in English: Applicants who are not native English speakers must submit official TOEFL or IELTS exam results as a part of their application for admission. For the TOEFL, a minimum internet-based total score of 80 with a score of 23 in the writing section is required. For the IELTS, a minimum 6.5 overall and 6.5 in the writing section is required. Use Calvin Theological Seminary's institutional code 1096 to order scores. Any exceptions to this requirement are handled on a case by case basis. Earning a previous degree at an English speaking college or university does not automatically exempt someone from the TOEFL requirement.Non-native English speaking individuals from countries where English is an official language, who also complete their primary and secondary education in English are exempt from the requirement to send a TOEFL or IELTS score.