NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST CONFERENCE

1219 Pleasant Grove Blvd., Roseville, CA 95678
(916) 797-6222 | www.nabconference.org

Emerging Leader Development Catalogue

NAB Expectations

The following are the expectations of participants of either the Year of Equipping or Internship Residency:

- Is in agreement with Statement of Faith, Statement on Marriage, and Ethical Statement.
- Has a connection to a region/cluster/church. This is a ministry that flows from, by, to, or with an NAB ministry connection.
- Is supportive of the Four Ends and is connected to NAB ministry initiatives.
- Will meet on an annual basis with the Executive Team representative to ensure compliance still in effect.
- Is open to NAB-Connect, the NAB orientation webinar.

Year of Equipping

Cost Associated: $2,500 USD

Timeframe: 9 months

Year of Equipping is an emerging leader cohort composed of three modules, each three months long and each reflecting the three teaching sessions in Blue Ocean. The first module addresses questions of who God is and what he is up to. The second module takes on the topic of spiritual formation, as we discuss how we are being re-formed in God's image as we join him on his mission. Module three addresses how Christian community flows from the first two, and we discuss what we are to do in light of who God is and how he is forming us. In each module, we read a book pertaining to the subject matter; expect a commitment to two two-hour video discussions and an in-person meeting for each module.

Historically the NAB has covered $500 (USD), the participant's region has covered $500 (USD), the participant's church has covered at least $500 (USD), and we have gotten outside funding for another $500 (USD).

Contact: Wayne Stapleton (wstapleton@nabconf.org)

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Alberta Baptist Association New Pastor Cohort

Cost Associated: $0

Timeframe: 9 months

Location: Alberta

The New Pastor's Cohort program is designed to equip and encourage current and aspiring ministry leaders through intentional learning and mentorship. Participants will engage in a monthly Zoom call featuring two different presenters who bring practical experience and insight into key areas of ministry leadership. The program also includes a two-day retreat focused on personal growth, networking, and spiritual renewal. Topics covered throughout the year include preaching, pastoral care, discipleship pathways, ministry philosophy development, family relationships, CliftonStrengths, and building resiliency for long-term ministry effectiveness.

Contact: Terry Fossen (tfossen@nab.ca) or Matt Wilks (mwilks@nab.ca)

Alberta Baptist Association Student Ministries Resources Team

Cost Associated: $0

Timeframe: Ongoing

Location: Alberta

The SMRT exists to promote, resource, and encourage student ministries within local churches across the ABA and throughout the association as a whole. Participants will gain practical skills in leadership development, ministry planning, and program implementation while learning from experienced ministry leaders. The program is designed to strengthen both ministry effectiveness and personal growth, providing opportunities for spiritual, relational, and leadership development. Through training, mentoring, and collaboration, emerging leaders will be equipped to serve the next generation with confidence and vision.

Contact: Terry Fossen (tfossen@nab.ca) or Matt Wilks (mwilks@nab.ca)

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Alberta Baptist Association Word and Table (Gap Year Program)

Cost Associated: TBD

Timeframe: 9 Months

Location: Alberta

With a planned start date of the fall of 2027, Word and Table will be an immersive Christian training experience designed to help young adults discern God's direction for their lives and explore deeper questions about faith, purpose, and calling. The name reflects two essential streams of Christian formation: Word, which emphasizes a deep foundation in Scripture and historic Christian faith, and Table, which focuses on practical ministry, hospitality, compassion, and serving others. Built around the rhythms of worship, community, and mission, the program seeks to shape participants both spiritually and practically. Through intentional discipleship and hands-on experience, young adults are equipped to live out their faith with conviction, character, and purpose.
Contact: Terry Fossen (tfossen@nab.ca) or Matt Wilks (mwilks@nab.ca)

Camp Caroline Ministry Internship

Cost Associated: Travel to Camp Caroline, Alberta

Timeframe: 9–12 Months

Location: Alberta

This ministry internship is a year-long experience designed for emerging leaders who are exploring God's calling in ministry. As they serve alongside an experienced ministry team, interns gain practical ministry experience while gradually assuming greater responsibility in a variety of ministry settings. Throughout the year, interns receive intentional coaching and mentoring while participating in leadership development and spiritual formation that support both their personal and ministry growth. The internship is designed to cultivate Christ-like character, ministry competence, and a deeper understanding of vocational Christian ministry.
Contact: Ben Trites (ben@campcaroline.ab.ca)

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Disciples Seminary

Cost Associated: $300 USD per month

Timeframe: dependent upon degree program (BA/MA, MA, BA/MDiv, MDiv, DMin)

Location: NAB Northwest

Disciples Seminary was created to provide competency-based theological education for the purpose of training NABNW pastors, missionaries, and church leaders to be sent out from NABNW churches. With the ever-increasing costs of traditional theological education, Disciples Seminary significantly lowers that cost for an accredited degree that brings a theological education under the NABNW local church. Students work with their local NABNW church and a mentor/discipleship team of three people who help shape the student's outcomes. Every class, project, and assignment works toward the student's chosen degree outcomes. We have an array of learning experiences we continually add to. We use learning cohorts (online), self-paced courses (online), and church-based classes (in person), as well as customized learning paths tailored to the student and the church context. The learning journey is shaped by the student's mentor team.

Contact: Geoff Hart (ghartt@kairos.edu) or Steve Weisenburger (steve@nabnw.org)

Eastern Association School of Theology (E.A.S.T.)

Cost Associated: $300 USD per month for undergrad and graduate students; $600 USD per month for doctoral candidates

Timeframe: until completion

Location: Eastern Association

E.A.S.T. is a ministry of the NAB Eastern Association, a contextualized partner with Kairos University. All faculty mentors are Kairos University mentors who are also associated with E.A.S.T. This school of theology offers learning resources, local mentoring, support services, and the opportunity to pursue an accredited ministry degree (Master of Arts, Master of Divinity, or Doctor of Ministry) through Kairos University.

Contact: Dr. Dana Goodnough (goodnough@pittsfordcc.org)

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Great Lakes Association Ohio Cluster Internship Residency

Cost Associated: Paid Position

Timeframe: 9 months / 2 years

Location: Great Lakes Association

This program develops spiritually formed ministry leaders through hands-on ministry, academic partnership with Kairos University, and one-on-one mentoring with seasoned pastoral staff. Interns (9months) and Residents (2 years) receive compensation, spiritual formation time, and educational support aimed at producing ministry-ready leaders who can serve across the GLA Cluster and beyond to lead the church into the next generation. Your experience in the program will count as progress toward earning a bachelor's or master's degree, depending on your education background and goals. There are various pathways available for emerging leaders exploring or actively pursuing vocational ministry.

Internship Contact: Heartland Community Church – Career Page

Residency Contact: Heartland Community Church – Career Page

One-Eighty Residency

Cost Associated: $9,600–15,000 USD (Scholarships available)

Timeframe: 12 months

Location: Lodi, California

The One-Eighty Residency Program is a one-year residential internship for young adults (18–25) designed to give a comprehensive introduction to mission, theology, and practical life. Through formal and informal gatherings and practices, our residents will learn how to live life with others in a dorm setting, see the beauty in cross-cultural ministry, learn how God is already working in and through them, and practice rhythms that will keep them grounded throughout their year together. Through this program, residents will receive: a full year of deep spiritual formation in close community; a broad understanding of contextual theology and missiology; experience in youth ministry, outdoor education, and adventure programming; and experience in adolescent mental health and community development. Through our partnership with Kairos University, our residents can receive 54 credits toward their bachelor of arts degree or a Certificate in Contextual Mission and Praxis. New cohorts start every year at the end of July.

Website: 180residency.org

Contact: Denes Damasdi (denes@180lodi.org)