



Eternity Bible College Church Affiliate Program Description

The EBC Church Affiliate Program is a formal relationship between EBC and a specific local church or consortium of churches. It is designed to increase the effectiveness of discipleship in the local church by bringing EBC's Distance Education (DE) curriculum into the context of the local church as part of a structured discipleship / mentoring process. At the heart of EBC's DE program is a radical commitment to the local church in God's mission to glorify Himself on this earth.

What is the purpose?

The EBC Church Affiliate Program is designed to foster partnership between churches and EBC to enhance the discipleship in the local church. EBC desires to serve the local church, and this program is designed to enhance that service.

What is the process?

1. Fill out an EBC Church Affiliate application.
2. Evaluate level of doctrinal agreement.
3. Establish the level of commitment to relational discipleship.
4. The church leadership must unanimously affirm this relationship.
5. Agree to the commitments required of an EBC Church Affiliate.
6. Finally, sign the EBC Church Affiliate *Memorandum of Understanding*.

*There will be an assessment and evaluation process each year to determine if churches will continue as Church Affiliates.

What is the church's commitment?

1. **Providing a robust mentoring program** for students in the program - details will be discussed during the screening process.
2. **Providing information about EBC** to your local church through available communication channels on a regular basis (e.g. announce classes are starting prior to the semester, announce application deadlines). These communication channels will vary depending on the specific church, but will include things such as: the church website (EBC banner/link); forward EBC newsletter to email list; feature EBC in blogs, newsletters, bulletins, facebook, etc. at least four times per year (Jan, June, Aug, Nov); and other avenues that may be appropriate.
3. **Allow an EBC staff or faculty member to visit your church approximately once per year.** An

opportunity for that person to speak to the church / youth should be made available unless circumstances absolutely preclude it.

4. Pre-screen applicants - The doctrinal questionnaire and reference form portions of the application will be handled by the Church Affiliate. These will be known as “fast-track” applications.

What is EBC's commitment to the church?

- 1. Offer one full scholarship of tuition per semester for one student of the church's choosing!** (can be used for fall, winterim, spring, summer for a total of 32 credits per academic year). The scholarship is for one student; it cannot be split among multiple students. This scholarship is available every semester the church is an affiliate and is not dependent on the number of students in the program (i.e. if you only have one student you can still use it). The scholarship will not cover books or fees.
- 2.** Allow students from the church to apply via the “fast-track” process.
- 3. Offer high quality Distance Education classes** that strongly encourage students to engage in their local church.
- 4.** Allow anyone from the Church Affiliate to **audit classes free of charge**.
- 5.** Offer the course “**Introduction to Discipleship Counseling**” **free of charge** to any and all students who desire to enroll. This is a for-credit class. (This added benefit is offered to all churches, not just Church Affiliates.)
- 6. Provide assessment** of the student's learning and the mentoring process.
- 7. Continue to pursue accreditation** through the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) at an appropriate pace.

Our future desire...

EBC's desire is that some Church Affiliates will develop into locations offering a hybrid education instead of purely online education. As churches develop a cohort of students, we would like to see them offer on-site classes that would help students in their particular area and provide an opportunity for their pastoral staff to teach a class. These classes could be either core classes or electives.

Eternity Bible College . 2136 Winifred Way . Simi Valley, CA 93063

affiliate@eternitybiblecollege.com