The Bishop Maher Catholic Leadership Scholarship (BMCLS) is intended to assist Catholic undergraduate men and women who have demonstrated leadership capabilities in their parish or within their Catholic community, and who have financial need.

After review and recommendation from the BMCLS Committee, the University will award scholarships, which normally range in value between $1000 and $2500 per year, depending on the financial need of the recipient.

All Bishop Maher Catholic Leadership Scholarship applicants must have a cumulative minimum 3.0 GPA. Renewal Applicants will be reviewed based on the cumulative GPA at the end of the previous January Intersession.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE: FIRST TIME APPLICANTS**

1. Complete the BMCLS Application (to the right), and return it directly to the USD Office of Financial Aid by the priority deadline: March 16, 2015.

2. All applicants must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). All Admission and Financial Aid application forms must be completed by the priority deadline of March 2, 2015. See instructions in the Guide to Applying/Reapplying for Financial Aid at USD for 2015-2016.

3. All applicants must submit a letter to the BMCLS Committee c/o the USD Office of Financial Aid citing those past and current activities that give evidence of Catholic leadership and pastoral participation in a parish, community and/or academic setting.

4. First time applicants must also forward a BMCLS Recommendation Form from the pastoral leader of their parish or Catholic community, which describes their leadership and/or service. This form should be forwarded directly to the BMCLS Committee c/o USD Office of Financial Aid.

Bishop Maher Catholic Leadership Scholarship applicants may receive an initial Award Letter (e-mail notification) and subsequent revisions prior to receiving notification of the BMCLS award.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE: RENEWAL APPLICANTS**

1. Renewal applicants must complete the BMCLS Application (to the right) and return it directly to the USD Office of Financial Aid by the priority deadline of March 16, 2015.

2. Renewal applicants must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Priority is given to applicants who meet the priority deadline of March 2, 2015.

3. To be considered for a renewal scholarship each year, a BMCLS recipient must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 by the end of the previous January Intersession.

4. Renewal applicants must submit a letter to the USD Office of Financial Aid with the BMCLS Application, describing those activities in which the applicant participated to demonstrate continued leadership or service in University Ministry, the parish or Catholic community. Renewal applicants must submit this information to the Office of Financial Aid by March 16, 2015.