

BUCKEYE BRETHERN INSTITUTE

OVERVIEW AND COST SUMMARY

Buckeye Brethren Institute will become an Academy Certified Training System that provides a pathway for education that leads to the fulfillment of the ordination requirements within the Church of the Brethren as set forth in the 2014 Ministerial Leadership paper. BBI is designed to be a three year program that consists of 12 classes, as well as other training activities to accomplish those educational requirements to prepare individuals for a life of set-apart ministry. BBI was developed and intended for those students whose life circumstances prevent them from participating in seminary or other traditional ministry training sessions.

FINANCIAL PLAN

Important costs that each student will be expected to pay:

- \$ 50 - Application fee which must accompany the completed application form
 - \$ 75 - Per course plus Textbooks and materials
((\$50 of this fee is covered by the Student Minister's Fund for active Church of the Brethren members, bringing the cost to \$25/class)
 - \$ 25 - Late registration per course (where applicable)
 - \$ 50 - Practice Ministry Day fee (3 required/1 per year)
((\$25 of this fee is covered by the Student Minister's Fund for active Church of the Brethren members, bringing the cost to \$25/class)
 - \$ 50 - Graduation fee
 - \$ 25 - Fee to audit a course for CEUs
- Travel to and from classes (for those who travel over 150 miles roundtrip please check with Ministry Education Director about a discount)

This program does cost money; however, when you compare BBI fees with college fees or seminary fees the cost is minimal. Consider this is an investment in YOUR future and the future of the CHURCH. It is possible that a congregation or the district will make financial contributions towards your expenses. This support might be in the form of a scholarship or grant that would help pay a percentage of your total cost.

Each class will consist of 3 meetings which will take place on Saturdays (9:30 - 3:30) over a 6 week period. In most cases, the meetings will take place in Ashland at the District Office or one of the Ashland area churches.

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

- Participation in 15 or more contact hours per course (3 meetings, 5 hours per meeting)
- Attend each class unless there are extreme extenuating circumstances, as approved by director and instructor

- Must attend all class sessions to receive CREDIT WITH DISTINCTION (in addition to work of exceptional quality)
- 35-45 hours of course work outside of class meetings (reading and writing)
- Approximately 400 pages of required reading
- Completion of a research project(s) outside of class time & all class work within time parameter set for the course
- Attendance at one (1) orientation day (early August) preferably before classes begin or you must attend the following summer in order to take additional classes. You will also complete the biblical/theological inventory at orientation.
- Attendance at three (3) Practice of Ministry Days (Springtime)
- Attendance of at least one (1) Annual Conference, one (1) District Conference & a significant ecumenical, interfaith or intercultural event.
- Completion of a portfolio of ministry experiences and personal growth.
- Completion of a supervised ministry experience (internship).

Buckeye Brethren Institute - Sequence of Classes

(2025-2026)

Preaching (MS)	Tina Hunt
New Testament Survey (B)	Cindy Peel
History of the Church (H/T)	Tina Hunt
Ministerial Leadership and Administration (MS)	Panel

(2026-2027)

Teaching and Learning in the Church (MS)	Cindy Peel
History, Beliefs, and Practices of the Church of the Brethren (H/T)	Paul Bozman
Biblical Interpretation (B)	Paul Bozman
Introduction to Pastoral Care (MS)	Tina Hunt

(2027-2028)

Introduction to Worship (MS)	TBD
Old Testament Survey (B)	TBD
Evangelism/Outreach (MS)	TBD
Introduction to Theology (H/T)	TBD

BUCKEYE BRETHREN INSTITUTE

ACTS Program Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone Home: _____ Cell: _____

Member of the Church of the Brethren? Yes _____ No _____

Congregation: _____

District: _____

Ministerial Status (check each line that applies):

_____ Ordained minister, Church of the Brethren

_____ Licensed minister, Church of the Brethren

_____ Ordained minister, other denomination

_____ Prospective minister, not yet licensed

_____ Pastor of a congregation

Are you over the age of 18? Yes _____ No _____

High School Education (check and complete as applicable):

_____ High School graduate (Year of graduation _____)

_____ GED Certification (Year received _____)

College Education (List any degrees you have earned):

Degree

Name of School

Date

Personal Reflection on Ministry: Write a brief statement (about 2 pages, double-spaced) on your call to ministry. Describe how your call relates to the life and work of the Church of the Brethren, and how training in ACTS will help you to fulfill your call. Please attach your essay to this form. **It should be turned in before you take your first ACTS class.**

Statement of Applicant: I hereby certify that the information contained on this ACTS application is complete and accurate, and affirm my desire to enter the ACTS program.

Signed

Date

Please return your completed application form with the \$50 application fee to the District Office at 1107 East Main Street, Ashland, OH 44805.

Questions can be referred to Tina Hunt, Ministry Education Director at 567-203-8872 or tmh4957@gmail.com

Photo Release: From time to time BBI may take photographs, sound recordings, or videos of class sessions, events and certificate award ceremonies for both educational and promotional purposes. We wish to balance BBI's need to educate about and promote our work with the right of our participants to privacy and respect. If you ever wish to have your name, or an image or recording of you to be withheld from use, we will do so when explicitly asked. We encourage you, however, to grant BBI permission to use your name and to be photographed and recorded in all other instances. We therefore ask you to sign the following release.

*Unless I explicitly forbid it in writing for a particular use or event,
I grant Buckeye Brethren Institute the right and permission:*

- To copyright resulting media in BBI's name or otherwise*
- To use, publish, republish in whole or in part, individually or in conjunction with other media, in any form of media currently known or developed in the future,*
- To make such use for any purpose whatever, be it for education, illustration, promotion, art, advertising and trade, or any other purpose reasonably consistent with BBI's mission, and*
- To use my name in connection with the media if BBI so chooses.*

I hereby release and discharge Buckeye Brethren Institute from any and all claims and demands arising out of or in connection with the use of these materials, including but not limited to claims for libel or slander or claims rooted in theories of right of privacy. This authorization and release shall extend to all legal representatives, heirs, licensees, assigns, or other successors in interest of the photographer/recorder, as well as the persons or entities for which the photographs or recordings were taken.

I am of legal age and have the right to contract in my own name. I have read the above statement and fully understand its contents. This release shall be binding on my legal representatives, heirs, and assigns. If any part of this document were subsequently to be ruled invalid, the balance of it shall nonetheless be regarded as enforceable.

Signed

Date

Though we ask you to consider granting permission so that we may communicate our work to those who support and could benefit from it, we understand that you may have legitimate reasons for refusing such permission altogether. Please indicate this by checking the appropriate boxes and signing below. As a courtesy, we ask that you remind any photographer or recorder of your wishes when you are aware that an event is being documented.

_____ I refuse permission to BBI to be photographed or recorded.

_____ I refuse permission to BBI to use my name in connection with its programs.

Signed

Date