

Gainful Employment Disclosures for the Certificate in Theological Studies Program

Context

In regulations published October 29, 2010, the United States Department of Education specified information that must be made available to anyone considering enrollment in an academic program designed to prepare students for particular employment, so called “gainful employment” programs (<http://ifap.ed.gov/GainfulEmploymentInfo/index.html>). The following disclosures are those required by the federal regulations.

Program Identification

The Bethel University Certificate in Theological Studies program is a non-degree program designed to provide more depth in biblical studies and theology to enhance students’ current ministries and occupations, and to assist some in vocational choice, and therefore qualified as a gainful employment program. The following link provides a summary report for this occupation (<http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/21-2021.00>).

The Certificate in Theological Studies program is classified by the following codes.

Classification Item	Code Value
OPE ID (Office of Postsecondary Education Identifier)	00905800 (Bethel University)
CIP (Classification of Instructional Programs)	39.0799 (Pastoral Studies, Counseling)
Credential Level	04 (post-baccalaureate certificate)
O*NET SOC (Occupational Network Standard Occupational Classification)	21-2011, Clergy

Program Costs

The Certificate in Theological Studies program includes 48 quarter credit hours. The costs of the program for students enrolling in the 2010-11 fiscal year were:

Item	Cost
Tuition	\$ 16,800.00
Books and supplies	\$1,100.00
Room & Board	Not offered
Total Program Cost	\$17,900.00

On-time Completion Rate

The on-time completion rate for the Certificate in Theological Studies program is 100%, as detailed below. The sample size is very small and the ultimate graduation rate is 100%.

The nominal time for completion of the Certificate in Theological Studies program is either 60 or 30 weeks, depending on the program chosen. During the academic year 2010-11, fewer than 10 students graduated from the Certificate in Theological Studies program. The Department of Education has indicated that in such situations, information such as median debt amounts and the on-time completion rate is not to be reported.

Job Placement Rates

Because the Certificate in Theological Studies does not prepare students to pursue state licensure, Bethel University cannot calculate a comprehensive placement rate for the program. Neither the Higher Learning Commission nor the state of Minnesota requires Bethel University to calculate placement rates – accordingly, the federal regulations do not currently require placement rate disclosure.

The Department of Education has promised to establish a formula for calculating placements rates for programs such as this one. Once the federal formula has been established, Bethel University will report placement rates by the federal formula.