



YALE XA FELLOWS PROGRAM





PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Purpose of the National CMIT Program

The Chi Alpha CMIT (Campus Missionary in Training) program is a 10-month internship corresponding to an academic year designed to train you in every aspect of vocational, full-time campus ministry. Your CMIT program is a bridge between a college education, a career, or vocational ministry.

The CMIT program will train individuals in many aspects of vocational, full-time campus ministry leadership under the guidance of experienced campus missionaries that are nationally approved to offer this program.

Purpose of the Yale Fellows Program

The YXA Fellows is the only Chi Alpha training program on an Ivy League school. The purpose of our program can be summarized as follows:

- To develop your professional and ministry skills within an Ivy League context.
- To enable your spiritual disciplines to flourish within the cultural milieu found at a highly liberal, private university.
- To enhance your cultural exegesis, evangelism and intellectual prowess within a post-Christian elite culture.
- To immerse you in an ethnically diverse community.
- To cultivate a philosophy of global missions.
- To mature in personal character and interpersonal relationship skills.

The ultimate goal of our program is to offer an authentic place of formation in preparation for wherever the Lord calls you next. Whether you see yourself in ministry or just desire to serve the ministry that God has used to bless you, we believe you will grow in ways you could not imagine.

A fellow is not relegated to being a staff person's gopher or a "special projects" person. Instead, he or she joins the Chi Alpha team as a co-laborer under training, taking on the work, challenges, and intensity of university ministry. The intern participates fully in supervised ministry to the secular university and learns how to implement the Chi Alpha mission: reconciling students to Christ, equipping them

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through Spirit-filled communities of prayer, worship, fellowship, discipleship, and mission to transform the university, the marketplace and the world.

This program is specifically designed to develop your: character, intellect, and ministry skills.

Character: The Fellows Program is a great opportunity to grow and allow God to refine your character as you work and learn. Each fellow will be personally supervised by a staff person and has weekly opportunities to meet with his or her pastoral supervisor for prayer and discussions that touch on the attitudes, disciplines, and expressions of our lives as disciples.

Intellect: Our goal is not to teach many things briefly; rather, we concentrate on establishing firm theological foundations. We supply each fellow with both the skills and knowledge needed to pursue a lifelong development of their intellect. This will take place in many different settings, including classes and required reading.

Ministry skills: We are committed to the reality that knowledge only becomes a helpful skill when the knowledge is allowed to be experienced repetitively in a person's life. Therefore, a fellow can expect not only training, but the opportunity to do the work of the ministry.

We intend to see men and women properly prepared in their character, intellect, and skills for effective ministry wherever they go next. We envision sending our graduates into full-time ministry or into the marketplace with improved leadership and professional skills to make an impact for the Kingdom of God wherever they go.

Requirements of the YXA Fellows Program

- You must apply for and be approved by the National Chi Alpha CMIT Program.
- You must attend a support raising training.
- You must open US Missions account through the National Chi Alpha office for the purpose of receipting and disbursing funds.
- You must attend the Reach the University Institute (RUI) in June the summer prior to the start of this program.
- You must be a college graduate.
- You must be willing to commit to the full 10-month program.



WHAT YOU'LL DEVELOP

Character

- Personal life of devotion, prayer, and spiritual disciplines.
- Living a life of integrity, honesty, and humility.
- Self-motivation and self-starting.
- A life with healthy boundaries.
- Outward and missionary mindset.
- Commitment to lifelong learning through study, reading, and classes.
- Strong sense of calling, self-awareness, and wisdom.

Personal skills

- Ability to develop and maintain a support team.
- Ability to connect to Chi Alpha on a district, regional, and national level.
- Ability to prepare ministerial taxes.
- Ability to apply scripture to everyday life.
- Ability to relate personally to students, parents, staff, church leaders, and college/university personnel.

Ministry skills

- Implement missions/pioneering principles including but not limited to evaluating needs, developing strategies, marketing/promotion, and evaluation.
- Experience ministering cross-culturally.
- Administration of events (planning, financial, and leadership).
- Develop appropriate structures and training for student leadership development.
- Verbal communication including preaching, teaching, and leading discussions.
- Planning and developing a student missions culture.
- Student discipleship and biblical counseling.
- Operating in the gifts of the Spirit.

Intellect

- Explain core theological doctrines.
- Exegete the Bible properly.
- Articulate current collegiate culture.
- Explain Pentecostal theology.
- Express issues concerning women in ministry.
- Explain Christian sexual ethics.
- Identify, define, and explain various world religions and worldviews.

STUDY PROGRAM

The Fellows study program, on the one hand, prepares you to become a Credentialed Minister, but beyond that, it is an introduction to the landscape of biblical hermeneutics, theological foundations, and biblical thought on topics of importance to the university missionary. Your study program will consist of two parts: **Theological Roundtable Discussions** (TRD) and **Critical Campus Ministry Issues (CCMI)**. Several of these courses will be paired with a **cohort** meeting for further discussion and learning.

Theology roundtable discussions

Theology Roundtable Discussions provide the forum for the you to interact in free discussion concerning the great systematic theological truths of the faith. You will participate in the following theological roundtable discussions:

- *Introduction to Theology*
- *Doctrine of God*
- *Trinity*
- *Person of Christ*
- *Salvation in Christ*
- *Human Nature, Sin & Grace*
- *New Testament Survey*
- *Old Testament Survey*
- *Spirit Empowerment*
- *Pentecostal History*
- *World Religions & Worldviews*
- *Ecclesiology*
- *Eschatology*

Critical campus ministry issues

Many issues are critical and central to the developing vocational minister. Campus ministry puts its own special spin on these issues. Our hope is that you will grasp the basic building blocks in these issues. You will undertake classes and practical experience in the following areas:

- *Calling*
- *Campus Worship*
- *Conflict Resolution*
- *Cultural Exegesis*
- *Discipleship*
- *Diversity*
- *Exegesis*
- *Growing in Emotional Intelligence*
- *Growing in Self-Awareness*
- *Healthy Stewardship of Finances*
- *Healthy Stewardship of Time & Health*
- *Ideal Team Player*
- *Lay Counseling*
- *Leading Strong & Weak*
- *Preaching Labs*
- *Servant Leadership*
- *Sexual Ethics*
- *Student Missions*
- *Team Leadership*
- *Visionary & Strategic Leadership*
- *Women in Ministry*

BUDGET

Monthly budget

Fellows are required to raise their personal support in accordance with National Chi Alpha guidelines. The default budget for a fellow in New Haven, CT is \$3739/month. The budget may be, within reason, adjusted either up or down. The absolute minimum will be \$2300/month.

Program fee

There is a one-time \$1,200 program fee to cover the cost of all the material needed. You may raise this money through one-time gifts. You may also raise any additional money to cover other work-related expenses (such as Reach the University).

Support raising training

Each fellow will be required to attend a Certified Support Raising Training before beginning the support raising process in the summer. Throughout the summer season of support raising, each fellow will be assigned a coach from our staff to track with their support raising process.

WEEKLY RHYTHMS

This program will teach you to maintain and wise and redemptive use of time. It will caution you in the abuses of time: laziness at one extreme, and workaholism at the other.

The nature of ministry is highly flexible and can often change from week to week. While our intentional times of discipleship most often take place during "work hours," schedules sometimes require them to take place at other times. Between meetings, study, and on-campus activities, you should expect a schedule that occupies between 45-55 hours per week.

Morning check-in/prayer
1:1 discipleship meetings
Core Group
Tabling Outreach
Classes & cohorts
Chi Alpha Live
Weekly tactical staff meeting
Monthly strategic staff meeting

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What if I'm not planning on being in ministry long-term?

We're okay with that! We believe that through this program is an intentional year of personal development while serving to better a community. The experience on a team, development of practical and leadership skills, and growth in character is excellent preparation to make you a better employee, leader, church member, etc.

What if I don't feel called?

Let's reframe the question: Would God be pleased to see you do this? For many of those who have taken a step of faith to give a year to Chi Alpha, there was less of a spiritual moment and more of a quiet obedience to offer the Lord these 10 months, knowing that He would meet them there in it.

How long is the program?

The Fellows Program reports in early August. It is a 10-month program, lasting through the end of May. You will need to attend Support Raising Training (April) and Reach the University (June) prior to the beginning of the program.

What is support raising?

The term 'fundraising' does not adequately describe the source of income for a career missionary. Chi Alpha, under the supervision of the Assemblies of God U.S. Missions, follows a well-researched and commonly practiced model for nonprofit businesses. Similar models are used by other established and enduring organizations such as Cru, Navigators, Earthjustice, and more. In fact, all of our staff raise and live on a missionary income!

Here are some helpful things to know:

- A national administrative office collects funds, disburses funds, and receipts donors for their contributions. Giving.ag.org provides a simple automated process for donors to give. All funds are sent to an administrative office in Springfield, MO.
- Funds are disbursed by the office in a monthly check to the missionary who raised the funds.
- Missionaries receive monthly and year-to-date reports of the funds they receive.
- You will register for a support raising training and will have a coach during the process.



Is this a viable career path?

After completing the program, participants may be eligible to serve on a pioneering team or an established ministry team in the US or around the world. You will be eligible to apply for the first level of ministry credentials through the Assemblies of God are met by the completion of a year in the program.

What's the point of a college degree if I don't use it right away?

A college education is useful in Chi Alpha for so many reasons:

- You understand the life and demands of a college student. You have greater credibility when relating to college students.
- Because Chi Alpha reaches people in every area of study, your particular background and experience is uniquely useful for relating to college students.
- The particular set of skills and training you received will be directly applicable and valuable because of the diverse needs in Chi Alpha. There are diverse opportunities for skills like marketing, graphic design, teaching, sound engineering, finances, management, and more.

God doesn't waste our training, education, or experiences. Countless missionaries have shared testimonies of how their degree has opened unexpected doors as they obediently followed God's call to missions.

by Brian Hargett

WHY GIVE A YEAR TO XA?



When plants are establishing roots in the early stages of their development, greenhouses provide structured environments for optimal growth. Chi Alpha's "Give A Year" opportunity aims to provide a "greenhouse" for spiritual growth and excellence in preparation for service to our Lord. In whatever vocation God leads you into you will need to know His Word, be in touch with your spiritual gifts, develop a biblical worldview and be skilled at leading others to Christ and discipling them. Giving a year to ministry also affords you the opportunity to grow in the areas of servant-oriented leadership, team building, communication (public speaking and interpersonal communication), project management and the list goes on and on.

Would you prayerfully consider giving a year as an investment that could have long lasting impact in so many areas of your life - your marriage, your workplace, your parenting, your neighborhood, etc? The roots you will be establishing are not foundational just for future "professional Christians", but for any follower of Christ.

Imagine what God could do in you and through you for the rest of your life if you devoted a year or two after graduation to serve alongside fruitful missionaries, grow as a disciple maker and explore your role in the mission of God in the world. You can rest assured that you will not be relegated to being a staff person's "gopher". We are not asking you to work

for us. We are asking you to work with us. You will receive consistent and personal mentoring from the staff and at all times you, your calling, and your future will be treated with respect and care.

Most importantly though, would you prayerfully consider giving a year as an investment that will advance the Kingdom of God so He can be glorified among all peoples? Your investment could have a profound impact in so many other lives as well.

There are countless opportunities across the world and in the United States where missionaries are asking for help and you could be an answer to their prayers. You could invest back into your local Chi Alpha group or help where they are pioneering Chi Alpha overseas. Some are looking for help with church planting among unreached people groups. Others are running coffee shops or other local businesses as a platform to live in countries where you cannot have "missionary" stamped in your passport. There are opportunities to teach, to act, to study, even to be a personal trainer. Talk with your campus pastor and they can help you get started.

Brian and his wife, Mindy, are the Missions Mobilization Directors at National Chi Alpha Ministry Center