



2025

District Materials

SEMINARIO BÍBLICO ANABAUTISTA HISPANO DE LA IGLESIA DE LOS HERMANOS

(SEBAH-COB)

**Student Profiles and Applications
Accepted Year Round**

Contact: Arlyn Morales
Coordinator of Spanish-Language Ministry Training Programs
moralar@bethanyseminary.edu or 765-983-1821

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano de la Iglesia de los Hermanos (SeBAH-COB)

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”
And I said, “Here am I. Send me”.
Isaiah 6:8*

*Entonces oí la voz del Señor que decía:
“¿A quién enviaré, y quién irá por nosotros?”
Y yo dije: “Heme aquí. Envíame”.
Isaías 6:8*

What is SeBAH-COB?

SeBAH-CoB is a training program that promotes a biblical and theological identity that is faithful to the Anabaptist and Pietist heritage. It is geared toward capacity-building of ministers in a way that is specific to the needs of Hispanic Church of the Brethren congregations. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, SeBAH-CoB prepares students to focus their service within their congregation, without removing them from their context. Persons who successfully complete the program have fulfilled the educational requirements for ordination in the Church of the Brethren.

All courses are 12 weeks long and are taught online by Mennonite and Brethren instructors. Four courses are offered each year. Video conferencing (Zoom, Skype, Whatsapp) may also be used to allow for interaction between students and the instructors. In addition to coursework, all students engage in supervised ministry (internship) and attend at least one District Conference, one Annual Conference, and one Ecumenical, Intercultural, or Interfaith Experience during their time of study. District SeBAH coordinators provide support and guidance to students during their training.

Who Offers the SeBAH-COB Program?

SeBAH-COB is a certificate-level, Spanish-language ministry training program coordinated by the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership (BAML) in partnership with the districts and the Mennonite Education Agency (MEA), Hispanic Pastoral and Leadership Education office.

All students enter SeBAH-COB with the approval and support of their district. District-appointed SeBAH coordinators oversee the program, providing guidance and support to students. Students who move to a new district while enrolled in SeBAH-COB shall notify the Brethren Academy Office, the district coordinator from the previous district, and the district coordinator of the new district. In order to continue in SeBAH-COB, a student must have the approval and support of the new district.

Who Can Participate in SeBAH-COB?

Those committed to Jesus Christ and the church who

- sense a call to ministry in the Church of the Brethren and are willing to test that call
- have a high school diploma (or equivalent) and the ability to do college-level work
- wish to fulfill education requirements for ordination or to upgrade previous training.
- have gifts for ministry, discerned and affirmed by the congregation and the district
- have the self-motivation to pursue a disciplined course of study for ministry

What Does SeBAH-COB Cost?

The total cost of the SeBAH-COB program will depend on the progress of the student through the program (i.e. how many courses the student chooses to take per year).

Below are the various costs involved in the program.

- Enrollment Fee: \$55, due at time of application
- Individual Course Fee: \$375, to be divided between the student, the congregation and the district
- Cost related to Experiences

Financial Assistance is available for students taking 2 or more courses a year and for students attending Annual Conference to meet SeBAH requirement

Whom do I contact about SeBAH-COB?

Arlyn Morales

Coordinator of Spanish-Language Ministry Training Programs

Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership

moralar@bethanyseminary.edu or 765-983-1821

SeBAH-COB Documents Available in Spanish Upon Request.

ADMISSIONS PROCESS FACT SHEET

Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano
de la Iglesia de los Hermanos (SeBAH-COB)

*An intelligent heart acquires knowledge,
and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.
Proverbs 18:15*

*Un corazón inteligente adquiere conocimiento,
y el oído de los sabios busca el conocimiento.
Proverbios 18:15*

The admissions process into the SeBAH-COB program consists of the following steps:

1. The district determines whether to recommend a person for SeBAH-COB, preferably in consultation with the district SeBAH coordinator. A high school diploma (or the equivalent) is a prerequisite for entrance into the SeBAH-COB program.
2. The district executive/minister fills out and signs the *Prospective Student Profile* and mails it to the Brethren Academy office. The entrance process includes a background check, initiated by the district through the Church of the Brethren Office of Ministry. The profile requires the date the completed background check is submitted to the district office along with the initials of the district executive/minister.
3. The Brethren Academy sends a SeBAH-COB application to the prospective student, who will complete and return it to the Brethren Academy with the enrollment fee of \$55. Districts differ in their determination of who pays this enrollment fee. A copy of the completed application form is sent to the district by the Brethren Academy as a courtesy. As an application is considered, Brethren Academy staff may interview the student by telephone or video conferencing platform.
4. Upon acceptance into the program, the student participates in an orientation via video conferencing with staff of the Mennonite Education Agency, Hispanic Pastoral and Leadership Education office regarding the basics of online education. Students also meet with BAML staff for an introduction to the full SeBAH-COB program.
5. Students may enter the program at any time.

For more information, contact:

Arlyn Morales

Coordinator of Spanish-Language Ministry Training Programs

moralar@bethanyseminary.edu or 765-983-1821

Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership

615 National Road West, Richmond, IN 47374

STUDENT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano de la Iglesia de los Hermanos (SeBAH-COB)

***Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind,
so that you may discern what is the will of God—
what is good and acceptable and perfect.
Romans 12:2.***

***No os conforméis a este siglo, sino transformaos por medio de la renovación de
la mente, para que podáis discernir cuál es la voluntad de Dios,
lo que es bueno, aceptable y perfecto.
Romanos 12:2.***

The Program Includes:

- Orientation via video conferencing which will take place with staff of the Mennonite Education Agency, Hispanic Pastoral and Leadership Education office as well as with the Brethren Academy's Spanish-Language Coordinator. Orientation to SeBAH-COB will include an introduction to academic reading and writing, educational technology that will be utilized in courses, and SeBAH-COB as a whole.
- Twelve courses based on competencies for ministry required by the Mennonites and Church of the Brethren, a minimum of eight to be taught by Mennonite instructors and a maximum of four to be taught by Church of the Brethren instructors. The four required Brethren courses currently include:
 - The History of the Church of the Brethren
 - Church of the Brethren Ethics, Policies, and Administration
 - The Gospel of Matthew
 - Church Vitality and Evangelism
- Supervised Ministry
- Annual Conference attendance and report
- District conference attendance and report
- Ecumenical, Intercultural or Interfaith Experience and report
- Ministry Formation within the District.

All courses offered online utilizing Moodle and/or other forms of educational technology.

Financial commitments include:

- Enrollment Fee: \$55, due at time of application
- Individual Course Fee: \$375, to be divided between the student, the congregation and the district.
- Cost related to Experiences

Financial Assistance is available for students taking 2 or more courses a year and for students attending Annual Conference to meet the SeBAH-COB requirement.

Graduation is recognized with a certificate at the student's district conference and with recognition at Bethany Theological Seminary/Brethren Academy Luncheon at Annual Conference.

REQUISITO DEL PROGRAMA PARA EL ESTUDIANTE

Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano de la Iglesia de los Hermanos (SeBAH-COB)

El Programa Incluye:

- Orientación a través de videoconferencia que se llevará a cabo con el personal de la Agencia de Educación Menonita, la oficina de Educación Pastoral y de Liderazgo Hispano, así como con el Coordinador de Programas de Entrenamiento Ministerial en Español de la Academia de los Hermanos . La orientación de SeBAH-COB incluirá una introducción a la lectura y escritura académica, tecnología educativa que se utilizará en los cursos y SeBAH-COB en su totalidad.

- Doce cursos basados en las competencias para ministerio requerido por la Iglesia Menonita y la Iglesia de los Hermanos: un mínimo de ocho para ser enseñados por instructores Menonitas y cuatro para ser enseñados por instructores de la Iglesia de los Hermanos. Los cuatro cursos de Hermanos requeridos actualmente incluyen:
 - La Historia y Teología de la Iglesia de los Hermanos
 - La Ética, Política y la Administración de la Iglesia de los Hermanos
 - El Evangelio de Mateo
 - La Vitalidad de la Iglesia y Evangelismo

- Ministerio Supervisado

- Asistencia y reporte de la Conferencia Anual

- Asistencia y reporte de la Conferencia de Distrito

- Experiencia y reporte Ecuménico, Intercultural o Interreligioso.

- Formación ministerial dentro del Distrito

Todos los cursos se ofrecerán en línea utilizando Moodle y / u otras formas de tecnología educativa.

Los compromisos financieros incluyen:

- Cuota de inscripción: \$ 55, al momento de la solicitud
- Cuota de curso individual: \$375, que se dividirán entre el estudiante, la congregación y el distrito
- Costo de las experiencias relacionadas

La asistencia financiera está disponible para los estudiantes que toman 2 o más cursos al año y para los estudiantes que asisten a la Conferencia Anual para cumplir con los requisitos de SeBAH-COB.

La graduación se reconoce con un certificado en la conferencia de distrito del estudiante y con un reconocimiento en el Seminario Teológico Bethany / Brethren Academy Luncheon en la Conferencia Anual.

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE/MINISTER RESPONSIBILITIES

Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano de la Iglesia de los Hermanos (SeBAH-COB)

Preliminary Assignments

1. Inform your district ministry commission/district board regarding the various opportunities for ministry training in the Church of the Brethren and help to interpret the theological and biblical foundation for such training.
2. When identifying candidates for SeBAH-COB, consult with your district ministry commission/district board to secure district backing for involvement in the program, including budgeting district support for each SeBAH-COB student. The fee per course is \$375 per student, which is often shared between the student, the congregation, and the district. Financial Assistance is available for students taking 2 or more courses a year and for students attending Annual Conference to meet the SeBAH-COB requirement.
3. Submit a *Prospective Student Profile* for each eligible candidate to the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership.
4. In conjunction with the district ministry commission/district board, secure a qualified person, ideally seminary-trained, to serve as the district SeBAH-COB coordinator. Encourage the district ministry commission/district board to clarify how the district will handle the matter of the coordinator's expenses
5. In the event of an interim between district SeBAH-COB coordinators, all communication from BAML and the SeBAH-COB student, as well as all district coordinator responsibilities will go through and rest with the district executive/minister.

Assignments After Student Admission to Program

1. Alongside the district ministry commission/district board, determine the way in which the district SeBAH-COB coordinator will communicate with the DMC regarding SeBAH-COB student progress.
2. Ensure the availability of a spiritually reflective experience to the student. This could be through the district calling cohort or a ministry formation group led by the district SeBAH-COB coordinator.
3. Be in contact with the Brethren Academy office for any questions or comments regarding the district SeBAH-COB coordinator regarding their leadership and/or student progress.

4. Work with/respond to the district SeBAH-COB coordinator in securing appropriate placement for meeting the SeBAH-COB requirement of a Supervised Ministry internship. (i.e. find second-staff, interim, or other suitable opportunities for pastoral ministry that may be supervised).
5. Work with the district coordinators in planning for an appropriate recognition of all graduating Academy students, typically during District Conference, or other district-wide event.

DISTRICT SeBAH-COB COORDINATOR POSITION DESCRIPTION

SeBAH-COB is a ministry training program approved by the Annual Conference of the Church of the Brethren. SeBAH-COB, when successfully completed, satisfies the educational component needed for ordination. SeBAH-COB is administered through the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership, a joint venture of the Mission and Ministry Board of the Church of the Brethren and Bethany Theological Seminary. SeBAH-COB is also offered in partnership with the Mennonite Education Agency, Hispanic Pastoral and Leadership Education office.

The position is best served by one whom:

- is fluently bilingual,
- has significant experience in ministry or in other leadership in the church,
- is well grounded in the beliefs and practices of the Church of the Brethren,
- has a heart for the future leadership of the church,
- is an encourager who is willing to be reflective and honest with students,
- has excellent communication skills, including online communication,
- has the time to spend with the students in a district as well as to complete the paperwork of a ministry training program,
- is willing to guide students toward the strengthening of their own faith while leaving the exact shape that faith might take to God, and
- is comfortable with advising students while realizing that some final decisions in ministry training need to be made by the staff of the Brethren Academy.

New district SeBAH-COB coordinators are **trained** for their position by the Coordinator of Spanish-Language Ministry Training for the Brethren Academy.

The **activities** of a district coordinator vary somewhat from district to district but generally include:

- Check on the progress of students throughout the course.
- Make arrangements for occasional meetings between students and academy staff on site in your District.
- Promote SeBAH-COB in the district and actively recruit new students.
- Periodically meet with all SeBAH-COB students together for the purpose of ministry formation.
- Take responsibility for the Supervised Ministry requirement, working with the District Executive/Minister to match students with supervisors, keeping track of completed event forms, and reporting on progress to the Academy office.
- Submit a regular quarterly report to the Academy on the progress of the District's students.
- Keep the district leadership up to date on the progress of students.

PROSPECTIVE STUDENT PROFILE

Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano
de la Iglesia de los Hermanos (SeBAH-COB)

To be completed by the district executive/minister

1. Name of Student _____
2. Address _____
3. Phone _____ E-mail _____
4. Church which student attends/serves:
Congregation/location _____
District _____
5. Ministerial status: ___pre-licensed ___licensed ___other
6. District SeBAH-COB Coordinator (Check one):
____ Will be (supply name) _____
____ Is not yet appointed, but we have one or more prospects
7. Training beyond high school (students are expected to have the equivalent of a high school diploma)

8. Present employment status _____
9. The person described above (*Check each item that applies*):
____ Has been contacted by the district and is interested in SeBAH-COB
____ Has the ability to do college-level work
____ Is computer literate
____ Has a valid call to ministry, supported by the district
____ Is open to training in Brethren institutions
____ Needs SeBAH-COB to complete educational requirements for ordination
____ Is already ordained, but would profit from additional training
10. The applicant has submitted a completed Criminal Background check to our office on
_____ (date of submission). **District executive's initial required _____.**

If the applicant has not had a Criminal Background check within the past three years, he/she will need to complete one before entering the training program at the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership. Background checks are initiated by the district through the Church of the Brethren Office of Ministry.
11. The district agrees to pay its portion of the SeBAH-COBH course fees for this student.

Signature of district executive/minister

Date

Send Completed Form to:

Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership
615 National Road West, Richmond, IN 47374