

Congregational Leadership Fund Scholarship Purpose & Guidelines



Purpose

The purpose of this fund is to strengthen leadership capacities in Atlantic Coast Conference Congregations by providing assistance for continuing education of pastors & leaders, assisting short term congregational leadership needs, and resourcing faith formation initiatives that strengthen leadership. Bi-vocational pastors, small congregations, and congregations with less financial capacity will be prioritized as recipients of this fund.

Guidelines

1. The applicant must be a member of both the Mennonite Church USA and a congregation of the Atlantic Coast Conference.
2. Priority will be given to continuing education for pastors or lay leaders, faith formation and short term leadership needs for persons with current assignments. In addition, congregations with less financial capacity and bi-vocational pastors will be prioritized as recipients of this fund.
3. Preference will be given to courses provided by a Mennonite college or seminary or by a Mennonite-administered pastoral training program and shall relate directly to congregational ministry. Other continuing education resources will be considered according to their relevance to the congregational context.
4. The applicant must have the endorsement of his/her congregation (i.e., elder or church council chair) and conference minister relating to his/her congregation.
5. The applicant shall have sought a financial commitment by the congregation via the conference minister relating to his/her congregation.
6. The applicant should be open to a personal interview by the Executive Committee, if the committee so desires. This may include an evaluation of the applicant's personal goals and commitment.
7. All grants/scholarships will be processed by and granted twice annually at the discretion of the ACC Executive Committee. Those received January –June will be reviewed in July, and those received July-December will be reviewed in January.

ACC Executive Committee
July 2018

Application for Congregational Leadership Fund

Applications are reviewed twice annually, and are due at the end of June and December for review the following month. Approved grants will be dispersed 1-2 months following review.

Personal details

Name

Today's Date

Street Address

Congregation (member or attending)

City, State, Zip

Job Title / Responsibility

Email Address

Preferred Phone #

Are you applying for:

___ Continuing education assistance (complete section A)

___ Short-term congregational leadership needs (complete section B)

___ Faith formation initiatives and leadership development assistance (complete section C)

Section A Continuing education assistance

Name of college, seminary or training program:

Course Title/Description:

Date of course(s)

\$ _____
Total assistance expected from other sources

Length of course(s)

\$ _____
Grant amount requested

\$ _____
Total cost of course(s)

Check payable to (individual, institution)

Brief description of how funds will assist you or your group increase in leadership capacity

Section B Short-term congregational leadership needs

Brief description of the current short-term leadership need of the congregation

What is the desired outcome; how will this grant promote effective leadership?

What are your plans for sustainable leadership coverage after this term expires?

Projected duration of need

\$ _____
Total assistance expected from other sources

\$ _____
Total projected cost

\$ _____
Grant amount requested

Section C Faith formation initiatives and leadership development assistance

Describe the proposed faith formation initiative.

How will this initiative build effective congregational leadership?

Projected duration of need

\$ _____
Total assistance expected from other sources

\$ _____
Total projected cost

\$ _____
Grant amount requested

Applicant signature

Signature by elder/deacon or church chair

Signature of conference minister

Please submit application to Merv Stoltzfus, ACC Executive Conference Minister, 2257 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster PA 17602, email: mervs@atlanticcoastconference.net

Reviewed by Executive Committee:

Date: _____

Action: _____

Am't Approved: _____

Date Paid: _____

Check No. _____