

# 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 congregational leadership needs. 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. Funding requests for sabbatical coverage will not be prioritized.
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 December–May will be reviewed in June, and those received June–November will be reviewed in December.

ACC Executive Committee  
February 2019

# **Application for Congregational Leadership Fund**

Applications are reviewed twice annually, and are due at the end of May and November 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 / Congregational 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)

**Please fill the corresponding section below and record the necessary signatures on the final page to complete the application.**

## **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

Briefly 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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewed by Executive Committee:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Check No. \_\_\_\_\_

Am't Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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