

PRESBYTERY OF CENTRAL NEBRASKA
MISSION AND MINISTRY FUND
MISSION AND MINISTRY GRANT FUNDING GUIDELINES

Rationale

In support of mission and ministry within the Presbytery of Central Nebraska, we believe:

By the grace of God, the presbytery of Central Nebraska, a governing body of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), is a community of faith called to nurture, serve and support our congregations in the proclamation of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, and is committed to ministry and mission within and beyond our geographic and denominational bounds. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, the Presbytery seeks to lead congregations with energy, intelligence, imagination and love.

Overview

The Mission and Ministry grant serves to identify and support local mission programs or activities worthy of the participation and support of our member congregations. Requests must meet criteria reflected in the Presbytery of Central Nebraska Mission & Ministry Grant Funding guidelines. A limited number of annual grants may be made to provide assistance in developing new and/or redeveloping the ministries and missions of existing churches within the Presbytery of Central Nebraska. Grant applications are evaluated by the Business and Budget Committee and may be approved based upon need and available funds. One grant per church can be awarded annually. **Prior to submission, proposals SHALL have been communicated with Session, the congregation and the moderator of the church.**

Mission & Ministry Grant Funding Guidelines

Business and Budget uses the following criteria in considering projects for possible funding and support:

1. The funding available for Mission and Ministry grants is not unlimited. Applications are considered at the fall meeting of the Business & Budget Committee for funding in the following calendar year. Applications should be submitted by **August 1st**. Late submissions will be considered if all the available funds for any calendar year have not been committed. Submission of an application does not guarantee funding.
2. Grant awards will be made on a case-by-case basis; grants may be awarded up to \$2000. Submission of an application does not guarantee funding.
3. If for any reason the grant request is not fulfilled, all grant dollars **SHALL** be returned, or if the total amount requested is not used all unused dollars **SHALL** be returned.
4. The plan **SHALL** demonstrate the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed and **SHALL** be a valid response to God's will as affirmed in one or more of the statements below.
5. Those working on the plan **SHALL** understand that the Presbytery of Central Nebraska considers the proposal to be an instrument of its ministry outreach in the love of Jesus Christ.
6. Participation by members of the congregation and their leadership **SHALL** be encouraged.

7. There **SHALL** be efforts to encourage the congregation to raise additional funds to support the mission and ministry project. **Preference will be given to those who have gone to their congregations to raise money.**
8. The Business and Budget Committee may request a site visit before funding is granted and/or during the term of the grant.
9. Since the Presbytery, through its outreach efforts, seeks effectiveness in the work of the Church, as well as good intentions, the Business and Budget Committee will review grant applications according to these additional criteria:
 - The request **SHALL** be working in an area of clearly identifiable need.
 - The request **SHALL** exhibit competent management of its affairs.
 - There **SHALL** be evidence of enthusiasm and dedication among those engaged in the work.
 - Whenever possible, the proposal should involve persons from the community served in the planning and execution of its work, including the development of leadership and financial support.
 - The proposal **SHALL** have specific written goals including plans for their achievement and methods for tracking the progress.
 - An evaluation **SHALL** be sent to the Business and Budget Committee within **30** days after the purpose of the grant is fulfilled. It will indicate to what extent the goals and purpose of the grant were met.
 - Any funds not used as defined in this grant **SHALL** be returned to the Presbytery.

Failure to provide complete documentation may result in disqualification.

Special Exceptions to Churches

In special cases, the Business and Budget Committee may ask Presbytery for additional funds above the \$2,000 grant limit. Additional criteria to be considered includes but is not limited to:

1. Churches may be requested to invite Presbytery to visit and see how the request will impact their congregation.
2. A delegate from the Church may be requested to attend a Presbytery meeting and explain how the funds will support their mission and ministry.
3. Provide a current operating budget with year-to-date income and expenses.

Mission & Ministry Grant Application

Date of application: _____

Mission and Ministry Project Title: _____

Name of Church _____

Session endorsement _____
Clerk of Session Date Moderator Date

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____ Phone: _____

Reason for applying for a grant: _____

Amount of funds requested: _____ Total Cost of Project: _____

Please complete the following:

1. State the mission and history of your ministry.

2. Describe the purpose of the project for which you are requesting funds (You may use additional paper for your explanation.).

3. List the needs and opportunities addressed by this project.
4. How do you assess the impact of this project?

5. Does your church have a strategic plan? If so, how often is it reviewed and updated?

6. Explain the supervision and accountability for this financial support.

7. Name all other sources of funding for this project.

8. Date when funds are needed: _____

9. Has your church received previous funding from Central Nebraska Presbytery ___ Yes ___ No?
 - a. If yes, when and for what purpose:

10. Will this project grow to self-sufficiency, or will you be returning for additional support?

11. Have you applied to any other organizations for financial support?

Please submit a cover letter with a statement of how your church is making a Christian witness in your work and how the project for which you are seeking support fulfills the mission of the Central Nebraska Presbytery.

Mail complete application and cover letter to:

Business and Budget Committee
C/O Central Nebraska Presbytery
4111 4th Avenue, Suite 28
Kearney, NE 68845
office@centralnepresby.org