



Foundation Grants

United Methodist Foundation of West Virginia, Inc.

Guidelines

- In general, Foundation grants are not intended to provide sustaining support or to fund the existing regular operational obligations of a church or agency. Rather, Foundation grants are primarily intended to help initiate programs, projects or activities – especially those that are innovative, new or acutely needed. Our priority is to fund activities in the conference that have the capacity of enriching many or all local churches' ministries.
- Notwithstanding the previous bullet point, the United Methodist Foundation of West Virginia has temporarily expanded our Grant Guidelines to help support ongoing ministries due to the challenges churches and ministries of the West Virginia Annual Conference are currently facing arising from COVID-19 and the economic downturn occasioned by it,. Applications should request funds to support and continue ministries that are consistent with the mission of the Conference, and funds are to be used for essential services provided by the local church and the missional needs of the communities served by local churches. Health, safety, and protection issues may be considered. The need for funds for *ongoing ministries* must be directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Grants will not be awarded to cover the costs associated with clergy or lay staff salaries or benefits.
- We will avoid becoming the perpetual funder for any ongoing program or ministry.
- We target our resources primarily to United Methodist programs and ministries of the West Virginia Annual Conference.
- We want to be targeted and strategic in our grant-making, preferring to make fewer substantial commitments, rather than diluting our impact by spreading our resources thinly over many small requests.
- We conscientiously attempt to communicate with conference leadership to better understand the Conference's needs and opportunities.

Additional Information

- Grant recipient organizations must be recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt organization.
- We are unable to provide funding for international projects that have no United States connection.
- When providing funding for mission work teams, the committee intends to focus on funding for project materials but not for team member expenses.
- We will not ordinarily provide support for ongoing programs such as backpack ministries and food pantries.
- We do not routinely provide support for building repairs, maintenance, or capital improvements for a local church building.
- The following statistics will be updated annually to help applicants determine an appropriate amount of funds for a request, we will supply the following information:
 - The Foundation's total grant budget for 2020 is \$108,750.
 - The Foundation's largest grant award was for \$22,500
 - The Foundation's average grant award is \$6,000

Submission of Applications

Applications are available from our website: www.umfwv.org/foundation-grants

To request an application, please call 304-342-2113. The remaining 2020 deadline is August 15.