

COMMITMENT

Lancaster Mennonite Conference's Leadership Development Program is committed to growing leaders for healthy congregations. The Leadership Education Grant helps leaders who want to be life-long learners.

Lancaster Mennonite Conference



LEADERSHIP EDUCATION GRANT

*Growing leaders
for healthy
congregations*



Leadership Development

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Lancaster, PA 17602

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LEADERSHIP EDUCATION GRANT

PURPOSE

To provide grant money to support credentialled and emerging leaders in the Conference with tuition costs and/or educational materials for leadership education and training. Courses of study may be:

- Study and Training for Effective Pastoral Ministry (STEP)
- LMC programs and seminars
- Clinical Pastoral Education
- Seminary Programs
- Distance Learning
- Gateway Courses
- Other seminars/workshops for pastors or church leaders

GRANT CRITERIA

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible for a grant:

- Leader or emerging leader of a Lancaster Conference congregation
- Written recommendation from a pastor, bishop/ overseer, mentor, or other congregational leader including information about how your congregation will support you in this endeavor.

Preference will be given when reviewing applications for:

- Congregational commitment to support a part of the leader's educational cost
- Lancaster Conference or Mennonite Church USA connected educational resources

SELECTION PROCESS

- Obtain the Leadership Education Grant (LEG) application from the LMC Office or at www.lancasterconference.org/
- Complete all parts of the application, including the appropriate essay on the back of the application form.
- Submit applications to the Conference office by January 31 or July 31.
- Applications will be reviewed and grants awarded by the Leadership Education Grant Committee two times per year. Since there may be more requests for funds than are available for distribution, sincere effort will be made to be fair and impartial in awarding the grant. The Committee will look at:
 - available funds and number of applicants
 - congregational assistance
 - course supporting Anabaptist Theology
 - applicability to ministry in LMC
 - demonstrated need
 - references and recommendations
- Notification to the applicant will be given by email to advise of award or non-award of a grant.
- Grant money will be sent to the institution/agency/ conference office on behalf of the recipient prior to the start of a course or spring/fall semester by Lancaster Conference.
- Grant money may only be used for the purpose indicated in the application. If plans change after funds are distributed, the grant is to be returned to the Conference.

EXPECTATIONS OF RECIPIENTS

- Acknowledge LEG funding in the local congregation, verbally or in a bulletin announcement
- Report grade of previous class on next application

GIFTS TO THE FUND

Individuals or congregations may contribute directly to the Leadership Endowment Fund. Any direct gifts to the fund should be sent to the Lancaster Mennonite Conference office at the address below, or to Mennonite Foundation, P. O. Box 483, Goshen, IN 46527 and designated as "LMC-Pastoral Training Fund".

APPLICATION

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION GRANT

Applications will be reviewed and grants awarded by the Leadership Education Grant Committee two times per year. Applications should be submitted to the Lancaster Mennonite Conference Office by January 31 or July 31. Please complete all information requested or indicate “none” or “not applicable” if that applies to your situation. All information submitted in the application form is confidential and reviewed only by the Leadership Education Grant Committee.

Name _____

Address _____ (city) _____ (state) _____ (zip) _____

Phone (home) (____) _____ (work) (____) _____

E-mail _____

Member of Congregation _____ District _____

☐ bishop ☐ pastor ☐ associate pastor ☐ elder/leadership team member _____

☐ chaplain ☐ deacon ☐ deaconess ☐ other _____

PROGRAM OF STUDY: For what course of study is grant requested? ¹

☐ YES ☐ NO Have you received a LEG grant before? If YES, what grade(s) did you receive for that class? _____

For what period of time are you requesting support? FROM _____ 20__ TO _____ 20__

How many credits or classes will you be taking during this period of time? _____

☐ YES ☐ NO Will your study be part of a degree-granting program?

What degree are you working on? _____

How many credits or classes are required for this degree? _____

How many credits or classes have you completed? _____

What course(s) will you be taking? _____

What is the end goal of your studies? _____

Institution offering the course or degree:

☐ STEP/Eastern Mennonite University

☐ Eastern Mennonite Seminary

☐ Other (Please specify:) _____

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total cost for class/semester \$ _____

Congregational commitment of assistance ¹ \$ _____

Any other sources of assistance (i.e. district/MMA/scholarship) \$ _____

Amount of tuition contributed by applicant \$ _____

Amount of grant money you are requesting \$ _____

Explain any unusual circumstances or special situation we should be aware of when considering this application:

¹ In reviewing applications, priority will be given to those that have congregational commitment to support a part of the leader's educational cost and to a leader who is currently working with a growth plan with the Leadership Development Program in the Conference.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND (first-time applicants only)

	School or Institution	Major/Minor /Course	Diploma, Degree, Credits	Date of Degree
High School				
College/ University				
College/ University				
Graduate Study				

REFERENCES (from a pastor, professor, employer, or person with knowledge of your academic or pastoral background)

Name	Position/Connection	Address	Phone

RECOMMENDATION: Please attach to this application a brief, updated letter of recommendation from someone you report to or are accountable to such as your lead pastor, bishop, or mentor. It is important that this letter convey how your congregation will support you in this endeavor. ***This recommendation letter must be updated once each calendar year.***

- ☐ **NEW APPLICANTS ONLY:** Briefly share how this course of study will enhance your present and/or future ministry.
- ☐ **RETURNING APPLICANTS ONLY:** Briefly share how this current class moves you closer to your ministry goal.
- ☐ **GRADUATING APPLICANTS ONLY:** Briefly share how the grants you received help you meet your goals.

(Date)

(Signature of Applicant)

Return application and recommendation to--
Lancaster Mennonite Conference
Leadership Education Grant Committee
2160 Lincoln Highway East #5
Lancaster, PA 17602
VERSION: OCTOBER 2015

For Official Use Only

(Dates)

Application received

Application reviewed

Candidate informed

Funds released

Amount of grant

\$ _____