

Additional Guidelines

Fund 70047

(Train ministers for preaching/teaching Bible, Western US area)

Grants from fund 70047 must be used within the “Western Five” synods--Alaska-Northwest, Pacific, Rocky Mountains, Southern California & Hawaii and Southwest.

The Restricted Funds Oversight Subcommittee (RFOSC) has established guidelines for the administration of fund 70047 “for training of ministers in the West in Biblical preaching.” These guidelines have emerged from questions that various recipients have asked us and research into the donor’s intentions for use of the fund.

Specifically, we want to identify the following guidelines for you:

1. No presbytery or synod will be considered for a grant if they have applied before and have failed to submit a compliance report for the funds they have received.
2. The grant is to provide funding primarily for Presbyterian pastors. Others who may be included are pastors of churches in the Formula of Agreement (with which we are in full communion). These are: UCC, ELCA, and Reformed Church in America. It cannot be used ecumenically in general.
3. The donor was quite specific about the funds being used for ministers. The bequest was written at a time when commissioned lay pastors (CLP) were already part of the polity of our church. The latitude we have been given is that CLPs may participate in the event, but the event may not be marketed for CLPs.
4. The funds are to be used within a two-year period. An extension may be applied for, but should not be automatically assumed.
5. Funds are not given for staff to administer a program but are designed primarily for the program itself and its participants.
6. All requests should show the date of the action of a presbytery and/or synod council in support of the proposal. This assures us that this is a proposal that has been discussed and for which there is support of a governing body.
7. Compliance reports are expected.
8. A final report is expected, with an evaluation of the program. The final report is to include a full budget report of all monies received and for what they were used and when. Any unexpended funds are to be returned to the GAC for use by others.
9. Funds are to be administered by a governing body.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING FUND 70047

The gift from which this grant originates is restricted to the training of “ministers.” The Book of Order creates a clear distinction between ministers and lay pastors. Accordingly, this grant may not be used to provide programs designed solely for lay pastors or to cover the expenses (including travel and registration) of lay pastors. Lay pastors may attend training programs as long as those programs are primarily designed for, and attended by, ministers.

1. What are the restrictions regarding geography?

THE RESTRICTIONS RE: GEOGRAPHY ARE THE FIVE (5) WESTERN SYNODS (ALASKA-NORTHWEST, PACIFIC, ROCKY MOUNTAINS, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA & HAWAII, AND SOUTHWEST).

2. Does this apply to the location of events? To participants?

THE FUNDS MUST BE USED IN THESE SYNODS AND PRIMARILY BENEFIT MINISTERS FROM THESE SYNODS. MINISTERS FROM OUTSIDE THESE SYNODS MAY ATTEND EVENTS PLANNED WITH MONEY STEMMING FROM GRANTS BUT SHOULD NOT RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS. SCHOLARSHIPS SHOULD GO TO MINISTERS FROM THE NOTED WESTERN SYNODS.

3. As scholarships are given, are they restricted to Presbyterians?

SCHOLARSHIPS SHOULD BE GIVEN ONLY TO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) ("PCUSA") MINISTERS OR MINISTERS FROM FULL-COMMUNION DENOMINATIONS AS DEFINED BY THE BOOK OF ORDER (EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA, REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA, AND UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST).

4. Are lay pastors included in events? Is it possible to have events for lay pastors independently of ordained ministers?

PCUSA COMMISSIONED LAY PASTORS ("CLPS") MAY ATTEND EVENTS BUT THE EVENT SHOULD PRIMARILY BENEFIT MINISTERS OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT ("MSWS"). THERE SHOULD NOT BE SEPARATE EVENTS FOR CLPS AND MSWS.