

You are eligible for a Financial Rejuvenation Grant if you are:

- a Minister of Word and Sacrament
- a Commissioned Lay Pastor
- a Certified Christian Educator
- an Honorably Retired pastor

The Ministerial Excellence Fund program strives to:

Provide education and grants to pastors

- Better manage current income
- Improve their quality of life
- Eliminate indebtedness

Address systemic issues in presbyteries

- Provide greater accountability of sessions in negotiation of annual compensation
- Encourage annual accountability of maintenance of minimum salary guidelines

Provide education and training to congregations

(sessions, officers, treasurers, members)

- Understanding clergy compensation and taxation
- Greater understanding of the practice of stewardship

The Ministerial Excellence Fund's Financial Rejuvenation Grant program is a partnership of the Synod of Lincoln Trails, PC(USA), the Presbytery of Wabash Valley, PC(USA), the Presbytery of Whitewater Valley PC(USA) and the Lilly Endowment Initiative to Address Economic Challenges Facing Indiana Pastors

The Presbyteries Of Wabash & Whitewater Valley and Synod of Lincoln Trails



Financial Rejuvenation Grants

How To Apply



Contact Project Co-Directors:

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Ministerial
Excellence
Fund

Categories of grants available:

- **Educational debt** – This grant will assist with retirement of educational debt related to preparation for ministry. May be applied to undergraduate as well as graduate studies. Available for presbytery members who do not qualify for Board of Pensions Seminary Debt Assistance or whose need is greater than grants from the Board of Pensions Seminary Debt Assistance program.
- **Special circumstances** - Available for particular occasions of financial burden that are not covered by other categories of grants or by Board of Pensions assistance and health care. These are not limited to but may include medical expenses, educational expenses for spouse/children, care of elderly parents, retirement gap supplements, etc. These grants will be reviewed and decisions made on a case by case basis.

None of the Financial Rejuvenation Grants may be used to supplement compensation from a congregation.

Application requirements:

1. Submit an application (including information about you, your ministry setting, your income, your personal stewardship, your personal debt, and your retirement planning).
2. Include a letter of endorsement and support from general/executive presbyter.
3. Submit a current personal credit report to the general/executive presbyter.
4. Attend a designated financial planning seminar (*Getting in Shape Financially* or *Retirement Planning*) presented by the Board of Pensions educational specialist offered in your presbytery or a similar program which may be on-line.
5. Develop a financial plan for future financial well-being based on your educational seminar experience.
6. Provide semi-annual reports to the general/executive presbyter showing reduction of debt and improved cash flow. These reports will be handled on a highly confidential basis. (Provision will be designed to protect confidentiality of this material.)

How To Apply for a Financial Rejuvenation Fund Grant

1. Visit www.lincolntrails.org/MinisterialExcellenceFund to download a PDF grant application.
2. Complete the application.
3. Mail the application, net worth statement, current credit report and the budget plan to your executive/general Presbyter



Ministerial *E*xcellence Fund

Synod of Lincoln Trails PC (USA)