

You are eligible for a Jubilee

Fund grant if you are:

- a Minister of Word and Sacrament
- a Commissioned Lay Pastor
- a Certified Christian Educator
- an Honorably Retired pastor
- serving in a validated ministry and intend to serve for a minimum of two years (Preference will be give to ordained to Word and Sacrament.)

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
- 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 Jubilee 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.



Jubilee Fund Grants

How To Apply



Ministerial
Excellence
Fund

Presbytery of Whitewater Valley, PC(USA)

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 (www.pensions.org/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=246&mode=2). The total grant amount would be paid in equal increments over a three year period. If the pastor leaves the congregation during the three year period, remaining grant funds would cease to be distributed.
- **Special circumstances** - Available for particular occasions of financial burden. Preference will be given to those 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 Jubilee grants will be reviewed and decisions made on a case by case basis.

None of the grants may be used to supplement salary compensation from a congregation.



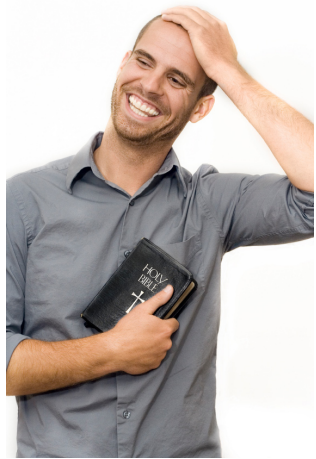
How To Apply for a Jubilee Fund Grant

1. Visit www.lincolntrails.org/MinisterialExcellenceFund to download a PDF grant application. You may also contact your COM liaison to receive an application form by mail.
2. Complete the application.
3. Mail the application, net worth statement, current credit report and the budget plan you completed in your *Getting in Shape Financially* seminar to:

Executive Presbyter, COM
Presbytery of Whitewater Valley
att: Jubilee Grant
1100 West 42nd Street
Suite 210
Indianapolis, IN 46208

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. A letter of endorsement and support from executive presbyter and Committee on Ministry Executive Committee. (If a COM executive member should be an applicant for a Jubilee Grant they would excuse themselves from any discussions by the committee.)
3. Submit a current personal credit report.
4. Attend (with spouse if possible) a designated financial planning seminar (*Getting in Shape Financially* or *Retirement Planning*) presented by the Board of Pensions educational specialist offered in your presbytery.
5. Develop a financial plan for pastor and spouse targeting future financial well-being based on your educational seminar experience.
6. Provide quarterly reports to executive presbyter and COM Executive Committee, showing reduction of debt and improved cash flow. These reports would be handled on a highly confidential basis. (Provision will be designed to protect confidentiality of this material.)
7. Applicants are expected to sign an annual release form of their information and receive specific information regarding the confidential protections for such information.



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