

EASTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE
Ministerial Leadership Committee

Leadership Training Scholarship Guidelines

1. The applicant shall be a member of a congregation of the Eastern District Conference (EDC), or a member congregation of a Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) area conference, or a conference-related ministry (CRM) of a MC USA area conference.
2. Priority will be given to continuing education for pastors with current assignments. Additional lay leaders who are members of EDC or other MC USA area conference congregations, or staff of conference-related ministries (CRMs) are eligible to apply for these grants when continuing education enhances or is required to carry out their leadership responsibility.
3. The course(s) shall be provided preferably by a Mennonite college or seminary or by a Mennonite-administered training program and shall relate directly to congregational or conference-related ministry.
4. The applicant shall have the endorsement of his/her congregation (i.e., elder/deacon or church council chair) and conference minister. For persons in CRMs the applicant shall have endorsement of their supervisor and the conference minister.
5. The applicant shall have sought a financial commitment by the congregation either through other congregational leaders or via the conference minister. Financial commitment will also be expected from CRMs for staff pursuing additional training.
6. The applicant shall be open to a personal interview by the Ministerial Leadership Committee, if the committee so desires. This shall include an evaluation of the applicant's personal goals and commitment.
7. Grants/scholarships shall generally apply to leadership training experiences, preferably by an accredited institution or program.
8. The grant/scholarship shall take into consideration the congregation's or CRM's support.
9. All grants/scholarships shall be processed by and granted at the discretion of the EDC Ministerial Leadership Committee. Grant amounts shall not exceed more than \$1,000 per individual during one year.
10. Sixty percent (60%) of total grant amount given in any one year shall be to individuals who are members of EDC congregations or CRMs with affiliation to EDC. The additional forty percent (40%) can be shared with individuals who are part of other MC USA congregations and CRMs.
11. Application must be made annually.