

# Mission Grant Application

The Missions Committee of Iowa District West (IDW) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod will consider requests for grants for all programs consistent with the goals of IDW, from its congregations for the benefit of a community/neighborhood based in the district.

1. Requests incorporating one or more of the following will receive particular attention:
  - a) Innovative projects that are designed to connect and engage with people in the surrounding community so that relationships can be developed and the potential for ministry exists.
  - b) Specialized training for groups or individuals that will equip them to better serve in IDW and the Synod, as well as to carry out the first bullet point.
  - c) Ministry initiatives which will lead, God willing, to new ways of seeing The Gospel in action, helping people be the hands and feet of Jesus to all people.
  
2. The following will not be considered: grants to foundations or other grant-making institutions or organizations; Recognized Service Organizations (even those in IDW); grants directed to individuals; grants not in keeping with the goals of Iowa District West.

The approval of a grant does not imply a commitment to continued support. Grants are awarded for one year, with the option to submit requests for years two and three, but not beyond year three.

Ordinarily, the Mission Outreach Grants will not be used for those efforts that are clearly part of the operational budget of the Project applicant.

**Applicants must complete the “Application for IDW Missions Outreach Grant” below.**

3. **Mission Grant Criteria:** The Mission grants focus on fostering authentic community connections rather than merely increasing church attendance.
  - a) **Mission Alignment:** The cornerstone of any successful grant proposal is alignment with your church’s mission and values. The grants are judged based on their impact on the community. The proposal must demonstrate how the project will impact the local community and align with the grant maker’s objectives.

- b) **Clear Project Description:** A well-defined project description is crucial for the Mission Committee to understand the scope and purpose of your initiative. Provide detailed information about what you aim to achieve, who will benefit, and the activities you plan to undertake.
- c) **Measurable Goals and Objectives:** Clearly articulate your project's goals and objectives. Make them specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART). This demonstrates your commitment to accountability and allows funders to gauge the project's impact. Break down your project into manageable components, outlining the timeline and resources required for each phase. These components will be the parameters the grant will access for further funding considerations.

Tip: Use quantifiable metrics to measure success, such as the number of individuals served, the percentage increase in participation, or specific outcomes achieved.

- 4. **Financial Transparency: Budget:** Submit a detailed budget that outlines how the grant funds will be used. Explain the economic need and how the grant will address this need.
- 5. **Sustainability and Long-term Impact:** Describe how the project will be sustained after the grant ends. Highlight the long-term benefits of the project for the community.
- 6. **Community Involvement:** Show how the project will involve and benefit the local community.
- 7. **Evaluation and Reporting:** Outline the methods for monitoring the project's progress and provide a plan for reporting the project's outcomes to the Mission Committee.

Grant Amount and Duration: Mission grants typically range from \$2,000 to \$10,000, depending on the scope and impact of the proposed project. The grant period is usually one to three years. Additionally, we encourage you to share stories of how the Mission grant impacts your church and community throughout the year. These stories will be shared with the congregations of Iowa District West to highlight the positive outcomes and inspire others.

Upon completing the funded project, recipients will submit a final report to the Assistant to the President for Missions describing the work, evaluating the project in terms of specific objectives, and providing a financial account of how the funds were spent.

**Recipients must be contributing partners to the Iowa District West operating budget since these funds come from the offerings of the people of God to carry out God's mission.**

Link to apply

<https://forms.office.com/r/znYw50rtJN>

QR Code Version

