



# National **Benevolent** Association

## Additional Information and Frequently Asked Questions

### Eligibility Details

Mission & Ministry Grants are available for congregations, programs, and ministries affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada.

- American projects must have a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status through the church and/or the state in which the ministry operates.
- Canadian projects must be registered charities through the CRA.
- Applications not affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be rejected.
- Applications outside the United States and Canada will be rejected.

In addition, the project or ministry must not be a current recipient of grant funding through another NBA program, with the sole exception of the COVID-19 NBA Response Grants.

### Application Process and Timeline:

The Mission & Ministry Grants application period opens June 15, 2020 and closes September 1, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. CT.

- **Prior to Applying:**
  - Review the [sample application](#).
  - Consider reviewing examples of previously funded projects and ministries. View past recipients online at <https://www.nbacares.org/grantees>.
  - YouTube video on how to get started: [ENGLISH](#), [SPANISH](#)
- **June – August:** Work on your application.
- **September 1:** Deadline to complete and submit applications. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- **September – November:** A Grant Committee consisting of NBA staff and trustees will review all applications and make funding decisions. The application review process consists of three stages:
  1. Eligibility review by the NBA Grants Coordinator.
  2. Awards determined by the Grants Committee. The Committee consists of two NBA staff persons, including the Grants Coordinator, and two members of the NBA Board of Trustees.
  3. NBA Board of Trustees approves all final grants at the November board meeting.
- **End of November:** Applicants will be notified of their status, either accepted or declined, via both email and written letter.
- **December:** Grant funds will be dispersed along with the written notification to the selected applicants. All checks should be received by December 31.
- **January – February:** All grantees are required to complete an Impact Report outlining how the grant effected their project/ministry. In addition, all grantees must submit a communication piece (such as a written story, gallery of images, or video) about the project's impact in the community.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Q: How does the NBA define “Educational Purposes”?**

The NBA defines “Educational Purposes” as any formal or informal opportunity for learning that is presented as an intentional goal or outcome of the project. Examples of previously funded educational purposes include: tutoring programs; leadership development workshops; focused learning and discussion groups; mentorship programs. “Educational Purposes” do not include prerequisites to education, such as school supplies or hunger management initiatives unless clearly connected to a projected learning component as explained above.

### **Q: What are the areas that NBA grants will NOT support?**

- Individuals
- Endowments
- Capital improvements (i.e. construction, remodeling, building expansion)
- Purchase requests (i.e. equipment or goods purchased without clearly articulated programmatic impact or expansion)
- National ceremonies, memorials, conferences, fundraising dinners, testimonials, or other similar events
- Elected officials
- Projects outside of the United States and Canada

*Note: this list is not exhaustive, and the NBA holds the right to determine fit and connection to the NBA ministries of each proposal and grant application received.*

### **Q: What are purpose-restricted funds? Why are these grant funds limited to certain types of ministries?**

The term purpose-restricted funds means that the donors who gave funds to the National Benevolent Association asked us to use their money in a specific way. Under U.S. law, if a donor restricts use of their funds to a certain purpose, the nonprofit must honor that request. Because of these donor requests, NBA is obligated to provide Mission & Ministry grants to only projects that serve adults ages 50+ or youth and young adults aged 10-25.

### **Q: My previous grant application was denied; can I re-apply this year?**

Yes, an organization may reapply regardless of their approval status from the previous year. Please review all available resources and requirements for the NBA Mission & Ministry grants program to ensure that your project and/or ministry is eligible for application.



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## **Q: My organization received a Mission & Ministry grant last year, can we apply again?**

Yes, an organization may apply in a subsequent year. Please be sure all required reports, evaluations/documents for the previously received grant cycle have been completed prior to submitting a new application for the current year. Please note the NBA Grants Committee holds the right to approve or disapprove a grant request and subsequent year funding is not guaranteed.

## **Q: What are the requirements for organizations awarded a grant?**

Organizations who receive a Mission & Ministry Grant will be required provide an Impact Report. The NBA will provide you with an Impact Report form. When grants are awarded, each grantee must agree to fully complete this form.

Additionally, each grantee is required to provide a communication piece about your project. These stories will be featured on NBA's website and social channels and will help foster learning for the entire church about effective health and social service ministries. These communication piece will also help your organization amplify the success and impact of the work you are doing.

## **Q: Where can I find additional resources to help me with the grant application process including examples of budget materials and the application?**

- Review the [sample application](#).
- YouTube video on how to get started: [ENGLISH](#), [SPANISH](#)

## **Q: Who do I contact with questions regarding the Mission & Ministry Grants program?**

Please email the NBA Grants Coordinator at [grants@nbacares.org](mailto:grants@nbacares.org). Please allow 3-5 business days for a response. Thank you.