



Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries Grant Application

Grant Criteria

Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries provides mission grants to support the ministry of its rostered members.

Grant Deadlines

The grant cycle is normally for a calendar year.

Fall is the primary time for funding decisions.

Applications received at other times will be reviewed at the discretion of ELM.

All grant decisions depend on funds being available.

Application Deadline	September 15
Application Award	November 1
Grant Period Starts	January 1 or may start at the beginning of employment of the ELM rostered pastor or lay leader

To submit a grant application, a congregation, ministry or agency must:

1. Hold 501(c) 3 status or other federally recognized nonprofit status.
2. Be a Lutheran congregation, ministry or agency or, if a non-Lutheran organization, applicant must include significant participation by Lutheran congregations, ministries, agencies, or individuals in the project planning, development, and implementation.
3. For organizations located outside the United States, a copy of documentation verifying corporate or trust status in the country where the sponsoring organization is located.
4. Call or be served by an Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries rostered pastor or lay leader.
 - 4.1. A parish pastor should be employed at least 3/4 time with a plan to reach full time within the first three years.
 - 4.2. The ELM rostered person may not be on inactive status and must have completed the required background check.
5. Congregations or ministries considering a call to an identified ELM-rostered pastor or lay leader may submit funding requests.
 - 5.1. The decision on funding will be made contingent on the call of the ELM pastor or lay leader.
6. Congregations or ministries in an open call process that includes the ELM roster may not apply until the decision to call an ELM minister has been made.



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Funding Eligibility

Congregations and ministries are eligible for all grant categories except the Concept Grant.

ELM-rostered individuals may apply directly in the Concept and Project Grant categories.

All grant recipients must commit to the provisions of the Partnership agreement.

Additional Requirements for Concept Grants

Applicants for Concept Grants are strongly advised to:

- Engage in a pre-application assessment with ELM's Vocational Support and Oversight Committee (VSO).
- Input from VSO will be part of the grant review process.
- Identify a mentor and/or collaborator for the project

Members of the ELM Collegium making a Concept Grant application *must*:

- Commit about 20 hours a week to the ministry development effort if the grant is fully funded. The time expectation will be adjusted for smaller grants.
- Include in answering the questions asked in the application:
 - A description of the ministry
 - An explanation of how Word and Sacrament are included
 - A plan for financial self-sufficiency
 - A plan for creating a support and supervising community
 - A plan for attaining 501(c)(3) or other applicable status
- Establish a consultative committee to provide support and oversight
- Submit bi-monthly reports to ELM Mission Partners Committee



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Grant Categories

Concept Grant	Amount: up to \$24,000	Duration: 1 year
To support the exploration and development of creative new ministries by members of the ELM Collegium. These provide funding for ideas needing development before being eligible for other grant categories. This grant generally will work as a partnership, in which ELM assists a member of the ELM Collegium in the development of a creative ministry.		
Mission Grant	Amount: up to \$24,000	Duration: 1-5 years
To “seed” a new congregation or ministry to call and support an ELM-rostered pastor or lay leader. Mission Grants are awarded in amounts up to \$24,000 for the first year. The grant may be re-awarded for up to five years subject to a scheduled reduction in support. The grant may specify expectations of accomplishments for the funding to continue.		
Support Grant	Amount: up to \$15,000	Duration: 1-5 years
To empower an existing congregation or ministry to originate a call and support an ELM rostered pastor or lay leader. Support Grants are awarded in amounts up to \$15,000 for the first year. The grant may be re-awarded for up to five years subject to a scheduled reduction in support. The grant may specify expectations of accomplishments for the funding to continue.		
Internship Grant	Amount: up to \$12,000	Duration: 1 year
To support internships for ELM seminarians. The congregation and supervising pastor must meet the criteria established by Candidacy and Credentialing.		
Sabbatical Grant	Amount: up to \$6,000	Duration: 3 Months
To support sabbaticals for ELM pastors. The congregation must submit a sabbatical plan meeting ELM (or ELCA/ELCiC) criteria.		
Project Grant	Amount: Up to \$1,000	Duration: 1 Year
To fund ministry projects promoting and cultivating ministry opportunities for members of the ELM Collegium.		