

ECO CHURCH PLANTING ACCELERATOR GRANTS



Mission Statement

Building Flourishing Churches That Make Disciples of Jesus Christ

Vision

As ECO began, our desire was not simply to create another denomination, but to truly be a movement that recaptures the best of our Presbyterian and Reformed heritage to saturate our broken and hurting world with the transforming power of Jesus Christ. We are committed to reaching a new apex in our next decade of ministry, by envisioning 1,000 planted, revitalized, and flourishing ECO congregations and micro-expressions by 2030. To make this passion a reality, we must aggressively recruit, train, re-train, and deploy 1,000 vocational leaders and 10,000 highly invested lay leaders. In doing so, we see hundreds of thousands of movement-equipped people emerging for daily gospel influence.

Purpose of Grant

In order to better accomplish our Leadership Development Initiatives and Church Planting Vision, we have created a grant with the purpose accelerating existing church plants.

Eligibility

- The church plant applicant is requesting funding for one of the focus areas of support. Apply for only one of the specified funding requests below.
- The church plant applicant needs to be currently recognized by the United States IRS as a 501(c)(3) public charity.
- The church plant applicant has filed appropriate ECO paperwork to be a recognized church plant OR has been through the ECO assessment process and has been approved.
- The church plant must have launched some form of public worship.

The ECO Grant Commission will accept proposals that support the following:

- Recruiting and developing potential church planters
- New mission/outreach project(s)
- Helping a plant cross a major ministry barrier or reach the next milestone

The ECO Grant Commission will not accept grants intended for:

- Offsetting existing budgetary needs/deficits
- Senior Pastor/Planter salary

GRANT APPLICATION DETAILS

FUNDING REQUEST OPTIONS

*Please note that requests should not necessarily be for the maximum or minimum amounts. Submission of the grant application is not a guarantee of approval. Grants may be dispersed for more or less than the amount requested depending on the overall quantity of applicants and quality of applications.

Option A

Funding for **recruiting and training potential planters:**

\$1,000 - \$10,000

Option B

Funding for **mission and/or outreach project(s):**

\$1,000 - \$10,000

Option C

Funding for support of church plants **crossing a specific ministry barrier:**

\$3,000 - \$10,000

2023 TIMELINE

- Grant cycle opens July 7th.
- Online applications are due by September 8th.
- ECO Grant Commission reviews applications by October 9th.
- Grant awards/decline notification by October 23rd.
- Grantees will receive funds in full by November 1th.

The grant would be contingent on hiring the apprentice or beginning the proposed project by 7/6/24 (within one calendar year from the opening of this grant cycle) or return the grant money.

DEADLINE

Applications must be submitted online by **September 8th, 2023 @ 5:00pm PST.** No exceptions for late applications.

WHERE TO FILL OUT AND SUBMIT THE APPLICATION

[Click Here](#)

or visit: eco-pres.org/churchplanting/CPAG

TIPS FOR SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION

- Be specific with numbers when it comes to budgets and attendance.
- Plan ahead! Don't wait until the day of the deadline to apply in order to avoid computer crashes and last minute issues. Late submissions will not be accepted.
- Narrative responses are limited to a maximum word count. You don't need to use all of the word count but enough to give clarity and context in your answers as ECO Grant Commission members may not know you or your plant.
- Check for spelling and grammar errors.

HOW TO APPLY

- Make sure you meet all the eligibility requirements
- Identify a funding request (A, B or C)
- Complete the Narrative Questions PDF
- Create a PDF with a detailed budget and timeline for the proposed project which includes how/when the grant funds are intended to be used.
- Have a copy of your church plant plan ready to upload.
- Gather any other relevant documents that include information that you feel is relevant to this proposal (optional)
- Submit your application by the deadline - September 8th.

Please have the following information ready to input when you fill out the online application.

Part 1: Your information

You will need:

- Your name and email
- Church plant name and location
- Name(s) and title(s) of staff members
- Funding request amount (\$)
- Total project amount (i.e. will the project cost more than the requested amount?)
- Designated Primary and Secondary Contact
If selected for a grant, the ECO commission will require one point of contact with whom to keep in touch throughout the granting year. Please identify the project leader/project correspondent and their contact information. Additionally, you will need to provide a secondary point of contact to ensure the commission is able to reach the proper individual.

Part 2: Short Answer (type in)

If you are requesting funding **Option A (Recruiting and Training Potential Planters)**, you will need to answer/complete the following:

- Provide a description of specific education and training needed and how it will be used to equip the recipient(s) for church planting.
- Provide a detailed description of the costs involved in training an individual and/or a class, as well as the funding requested.
- Describe how the recipient(s) will be involved in church planting after the training and in what geographic area(s).
- If possible, answer the question: Which leader(s) do I want to support? Why them?

If you are requesting funding **Option B (Mission/Outreach Project(s))**, you will need to answer/complete the following:

- Provide clarity about how will this project contribute to the process of leading people to Christ.
- Answer: How will this project help your church do the work of the gospel in your city?

If you are requesting funding **Option C (Crossing a Specific Ministry Barrier)**, you will need to answer/complete the following:

- How will this funding help you get to the next stage of your plant?
Provide a detailed description of this next stage.
- Why will the amount solve the plant's problem and/or get them to the next milestone? (i.e. Why won't you need to apply for the grant every year?)
- How will the funding help your plant grow? (Be specific!)

Part 3: Filed Uploads (Narrative Questions, Project Budget and Timeline, Church Plant Plan, and Additional Files)

For this section, you will need to prepare at least 3 required PDFs. You will upload these PDFs in Part 3 of the online application.

- 1.Upload: Narrative Questions (required) - template below
 - 2.Upload: Project Budget & Timeline (required)
 - 3.Upload: Church Plant Plan (required)
- Optional Uploads: You will also be able to upload any additional documents that include information you feel is relevant to this proposal.

Narrative Questions: (Required)

Please fill out the Narrative Questions PDF and have it ready to upload during the online application. You can view and download the questions below. This pdf is fillable so you can type directly within it.

Keep in mind that the Narrative responses are limited to a maximum word count. You do not need to use all of the word count but enough to give clarity and context in your answers as the ECO Grant Commission members may not know you or your plant.

[View Narrative Questions PDF Here](#)

or visit: eco-pres.org/CPAG/narrativequestions

Project Budget & Timeline (Required)

Please create a detailed budget and timeline for the proposed project which includes the way the grant fund will be used. This budget should have separate line items, revenues and expenses.

The project budget should show financial data for the proposed project during the grant period. Please only include revenue and expenses related to the proposed project, such as salaries, fees for services, etc. Please list all other funding sources you have applied for, both pending and secured. Describe how the costs of the project were calculated.

Church Plant Plan (required)

Please attach a copy of the church plant plan (even if it has already been filed with ECO). This plan should describe how the plant intends to develop and grow. Include goals and a timeline indicating when the project will proceed, who will be involved, and a projected date of financial self-sufficiency.

Attach Files (Optional)

There will be a spot for you to attach any additional PDFs that include information that you feel is relevant to this proposal.



If you have any questions about the application and its components, please contact: churchplanting@eco-pres.org

Terms and Conditions

I acknowledge that funding is not guaranteed simply by virtue of completing this application.

Should my organization be awarded a grant through this funding opportunity, I agree to submit a final report for this project by the final report due date.

Should my organization be awarded a grant through this funding opportunity, I agree to the following terms and conditions under IRS Section 509(a).

Use of Grant Money. The Grantee shall use the Grant Money only for the Project and in accordance with the proposal and budget previously submitted to and approved by the ECO Grant Commission. The grantee shall not make any significant change in the project without the prior approval of ECO Grant Commission. At the end of the grant period, the Grantee shall promptly return to ECO Grant Commission any unused portion of the grant money.

If choosing funding option A, the grant is contingent on hiring an apprentice within one calendar year from starting the grant cycle otherwise the grant funds will be subject to return.

If choosing funding options B or C, the grant is contingent on beginning the proposed project within one calendar year from starting the grant cycle otherwise the grant funds may be subject to return.

Reports. The Grantee shall submit written reports about the accomplishments of this project as well as an accounting of expenditure of grant funds. Reporting and documentation are required by ECO.

Grantee Final Report. The church plant grantee shall provide the ECO Grant Commission with all necessary requirements listed in the Grantee Final Report which will be available as the final report due date nears. The church plant grantee shall provide ECO with copies (if available) of any press releases, photographs and published material about the grant money and the work it made possible.

Meeting Requirements. The grantee may be asked to attend a meeting with the ECO Grant Commission, to be set at a later date, to discuss the project.

Publicity. The grantee will allow the ECO Grant Commission to review and approve the text, including quotes, of any proposed publicity concerning this grant prior to its release. ECO may include information regarding this grant, including the amount and purpose of the grant, any photographs you may have provided, your logo or trademark, or other information or materials about your organization and its activities in ECO's periodic public reports, newsletters, news releases or any other printed materials distributed by the. Please ensure that all publicity (including printed material, press releases and websites) states "partial funding provided by the ECO Grant Commission".

Retention of Records. The grantee shall keep all financial records pertaining to the project for at least four years and shall make such records available to the ECO Grant Commission at reasonable times upon request.

Revocation of Grant Money. The grantee must return all unexpended grant funds immediately if (1) ECO, at its sole discretion, determines that if the Grantee has not performed in accordance with this Agreement, or (2) the Grantee loses its exemption from federal income tax under Section 501C 3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and/or is classified as other than a private foundation under Section 509(a) of the Code.