East Ohio Conference
The United Methodist Church

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGIATE MINISTRY GRANT APPLICATION FOR CONFERENCE FUNDING YEAR 2028 (JANUARY 1-DECEMBER 31)

The East Ohio Conference supports and awards grants to undergraduate campus ministries to empower them "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."
The Conference Board of Higher Education and Collegiate Christian Ministry (BHECCM) exists to fulfill the functions and responsibilities outlined in the 2020-2024 Book of Discipline "The functions include the evaluation of schools, colleges, universities and campus ministries related to the Annual Conference, with concern for the quality of their performance, the integrity of their mission, and their response to their missional goals of the general church and Annual Conference."

The vision of the East Ohio Conference is to equip and support local churches to grow in their capacity to bear fruit that lasts by:

- Being disciples, making disciples, and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ;
- Being God's agents of transformation in our communities and throughout the world;
- Being bold and courageous leaders in reaching new people, younger people, and a more diverse people.

We would welcome your application should you believe your collegiate ministry would benefit from a grant to enable you to reach students and help disciple them for Jesus Christ.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 28, 2027

Undergraduate Collegiate Ministry Grant Criteria

All undergraduate collegiate ministry grant applicants are required to:

- Provide a clearly articulated, bold, strategic plan to reach **AND** disciple undergraduate students.
- Utilize the grant funds for undergraduate collegiate ministry efforts such as programs, resources, events, staffing, etc. Collegiate ministry grant funds may not be used to underwrite alternative mission trips/experiences, general church staffing or church wide programs/events that are not specifically targeted to reach and disciple undergraduate college students.
- Must be in formal partnership/connection with at least one United Methodist Church.
- Provide a clearly articulated, detailed strategic plan for diversifying funding sources to grow, maintain, and steward the collegiate ministry financials.

Undergraduate Collegiate Ministry Grant Instructions. *If you prefer to print and complete by hand, please write legibly.*

1. **Cover Letter**
   A summary of your bold, strategic ministry plan for 2028, specific amount you are requesting in 2028, and a description of your collegiate ministry plans to use the East Ohio Conference grant funds.

2. **Collegiate Ministry Information**

   Name of Collegiate Ministry _____

   Check Payable to_____

   Mailing Address _____

   City _____ State _____ Zip _____

   Website or Social Media _____

   Name and denomination of Campus Minister or Director _____

   Email Address _____

   Phone _____ ◯Home ◯Work ◯Cell

   Person completing this application (if different than the minister/director)

   Name _____

   Email Address _____

   Phone _____ ◯Home ◯Work ◯Cell

   Collegiate Ministry Board Leadership
   List individual Collegiate Ministry board/committee members and position.

Name	Position	Church Affiliation

Sponsoring Organization/Partnerships

List all formal partnerships/connections with sponsoring churches and organizations. If you need more space for any answer, please attach a sheet.

Name of East Ohio United Methodist Church _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Pastor _____ Email _____

Name of Church (any denomination) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Pastor _____ Email _____

Name of other Sponsoring Organization

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Contact Person _____ Email _____

Higher Education Information

List all schools, colleges, and universities that your Collegiate Ministry serves:

Name of Higher Education Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Contact Person _____ Email _____

Name of Higher Education Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Contact Person _____ Email _____

Name of Higher Education Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Contact Person _____ Email _____

3. **Evidence of discipleship:** The mission of The United Methodist Church is to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. East Ohio Conference believes the marks of fruitful discipleship can be measured through:
    - Engaging in ministry with the poor
    - Improving local and global health
    - Developing principled Christian leaders
    - Creating new and renewed congregations and faith communities

    Describe how you have seen this happen through your collegiate ministry during the last school year, including your successes as well as disappointments.
4. **Bold, strategic collegiate ministry growth plans for 2028 and beyond—detailed outline with SMART goals (https://www.smartsheet.com/blog/essential-guide-writing-smart-goals):**The East Ohio Conference process of vitality includes integrating the Five Fruitful Practices of radical hospitality, passionate worship, faith-forming relationships, risk-taking service, and extravagant generosity into your collegiate ministry. The Five Fruitful Practices are recommended to connect and move students toward a deeper relationship with Christ.

    Please outline and describe your strategic plans to reach, disciple, and multiply your collegiate ministry, including how they incorporate these Five Practices. Consider the following questions around the Five Fruitful Practices. Clearly articulate the answers to these questions within your bold, strategic collegiate ministry growth plan.
    - Radical Hospitality (Reaching out and receiving)
        - By what specific processes/strategies do you/will you attract and connect with undergraduate students, especially new ones?
        - How many new students have connected to your collegiate ministry through this current academic calendar year (September-June)? How many of these new students, that received initial contact with your collegiate ministry, attend at least one monthly event officially sponsored through your ministry?
        - In what way do you incorporate diversity into your ministry? Describe any diversity that exists in your current collegiate ministry. What plan do you have for becoming increasingly representative in size and diversity of the campus you serve?
    - Passionate Worship (Relating people to God)
        - Describe the worship services and/or experiences offered to undergraduate students.
        - Describe in detail how your collegiate ministry is providing opportunities for undergraduate students to experience God through passionate worship on their campus (es).
        - How many students attend worship? Include your attendance numbers through this current academic calendar year (September-June)?
        - What role does passionate worship play in your ministry growth strategy?
    - Faith Forming Relationships and Education (Nurturing for discipleship)
        - Describe the intentional discipleship process you have in place to encourage students into developing their faith and spiritual maturity.
        - How many students are involved on a weekly basis in a class, Bible study or ongoing small group through this current academic calendar year (September-June).
        - Provide a list of all ongoing faith forming opportunities that your collegiate ministry offers and include number of attendees, leader's name, and frequency of meeting.
        - How many students identify themselves as United Methodists?
        - What is your process to identify, train and deploy student leaders?

    - How many students within your collegiate ministry have been identified, trained and deployed as leaders who are now leading/discipline other collegiate ministry students?
    - How are you intentionally forming relationships with your sponsoring organizations or partnerships? Specifically name who you have partnered with over the current academic year (September-June). What is in the pipeline for future partnerships?
- Risk Taking Service and Mission (Sending out to witness and to serve)
    - Where has God called your collegiate ministry to serve in new opportunities? How many students have been involved? What is your strategic plan to continue to grow the number of students involved in serving?
    - Explain, with examples, how your ministry leads (or will lead) to deep risks of faith.
    - Provide a list of the serving/mission opportunities offered through your collegiate ministry during this current academic year (September-June), number of students involved in each and the leader's name.
    - By what process are you providing students an ongoing opportunity to explore and discern vocation and call, including focused reflection on the call to full-time Christian service?
- Extravagant Generosity (Sharing, sacrificing and giving to God and neighbor)
    - How are your students and ministry practicing extravagant generosity?
    - What process or learning opportunity do you have in place (or are specifically planning to put in place) for students to grow in their understanding of financial stewardship/ responsibility?
    - What is your collegiate ministry's plan to become financially sustainable? Explain your plans to develop and increase broad-based funding sources beyond conference funding sources.

5. **Updated financial information. Please include a copy of the following documents:**

For Campus Ministries:

- 2025-26 Financial Reports
- 2026-27 Proposed budget and 2026 year to date actuals (including all expected sources of revenue and amounts) for your collegiate ministry
- Request for East Ohio collegiate ministry funding for 2028 including:
    - an itemized list with specific explanation(s) of how the award funds will be utilized
    - the percentage of your budget that comes from the local East Ohio Conference United Methodist Church/sponsoring organizations
    - If a church is applying, the apportionment giving records for the last three years (the local church is expected to pay 100% of apportionments, during grant application year and grant recipient year, if your collegiate ministry receives a grant)
    - A copy of internal financial controls

For Chaplaincies**:**

- 2027 Chaplaincy budget and 2026 year to date actuals
- 2028 Proposed budget for Chaplaincy, if available
- Request for East Ohio collegiate ministry funding for 2028, including:
    - An itemized list with specific explanation(s) of how the award funds will be utilized.
    - If any portion of your budget comes from a local East Ohio Conference United Methodist Church: the percentage of your budget that comes from the local East Ohio Conference United Methodist Church/sponsoring organizations
    - The apportionment giving records for the last three years. The local church is expected to

pay 100% apportionments, during grant application year and grant recipient year, if your collegiate ministry receives a grant.

6. **2025-26 Collegiate Ministry Outcomes Report:** If you received a Collegiate Ministry Grant for 2025, please include a brief narrative "outcomes report" that describes specifically how funds were utilized.

If you have additional questions, please contact:
Rev. Ann Marie Carley, Engagement with Children, Youth, and Young Adults Director by email amcarley@wocumc.org OR
Rev. Dr. Tim Morrison, Board of Higher Education and Collegiate Christian Ministries Chair
by email: morristj@mountunion.edu

Review and Approval Process:
The Board of Higher Education and Christian Collegiate Ministries (BHECCM) reviews all applications for potential ministry funding during the first quarter of each year. If funding is not approved, you will be notified shortly after this meeting. Applications that are approved by the BHECCM for funding will be recommended for final approval at Annual Conference in June as part of the total Ministries & Missions budget. Confirmation letters with final award amount will be mailed in late summer and monthly payments will begin in January.
Note: Grant approval in any given year does not guarantee approval for additional funding in subsequent years. Undergraduate collegiate ministry grant awards are not designed to be sustaining sources of funding.
Monies are intended to implement or increase capacity for intentional discipleship. Churches in formal partnership with the collegiate ministry are expected to pay 100% apportionments during grant application year and grant recipient year. Churches that have gone on record as withholding apportionments in protest will be automatically disqualified for consideration.

Applications must be received by February 28

Grant applications and supporting documents are to be e-mailed to: mthomas@eocumc.com