



Sustaining Pastoral Excellence – Character Funding Application for Self-Selected Spiritual Direction

Pastors and missionaries who are interested in this avenue for growth may apply for a grant for up to \$500. In most instances this provides financing for a year's worth of spiritual direction. Funding is intended to pay for the cost of Spiritual Direction Sessions, not travel or other expenses. Please review eligibility requirements before filling out the application.

Part I – Personal Information

Name _____

Current Mailing Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____

Gender _____ Date of Birth _____ Marital Status _____

Covenant Credential: OWS OSM COM CM ML WML BVL*

**Ministers holding a BVL may be eligible for SPE funds; please review eligibility guidelines and contact Sustaining Pastoral Excellence for more information.*

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Did you pay ministerial dues this year? yes no last year? yes no

Did you complete your Vocational Growth Tool this year? yes no last year? yes no

Have you updated your CovConnect profile within the last three years? yes no

Church Information

Church Serving Name: _____

Average Worship Attendance: _____

Church Address: _____

Total Church Membership: _____

Role/Position (ex: Lead Pastor): _____

Church Budget: _____

Church Chair: _____

Conference: _____

Check the term that best describes where you serve: Urban Suburban Rural Other

Church Work History *(begin with current position, moving chronologically backwards):*

Church	Location	Position	Dates

Academic Information:

School	Location	Degree	Dates

All applications must be completed and postmarked by one of the following pre-designated deadlines: February 15, April 1, June 1, August 1, October 1, December 1. These are the dates that application reviews will begin. It is expected that all applications will be turned in by one of the grant deadlines which is at least 8 weeks in advance of the chosen renewal opportunity for which the grant will be used. For example, if the self-selected event is happening on June 7, the application would need to be submitted by the pre-designated date of April 1st. A response will be given to all applicants within a 21 day period after the pre-designated deadline.

Part II – Supporting Information

Please note that all grant applications benefit in their review process by providing as much information as possible. This means the inclusion of brochures, information on what is being offered and by whom, etc., need to accompany this application. A lack of supporting material may delay a grant response and prompt a request for additional supporting material. If you are not filling this out electronically, please attach your responses. Please answer the questions below in the spaces provided, and attach additional pages as necessary.

1) What does “pastoral excellence” mean to you? How do you sustain it?

2) What is your vision for how spiritual direction will contribute to your growth in Christ and ministry effectiveness?

3) Where will you receive spiritual direction, and from whom? (*Note: your grant request cannot be approved until you identify a spiritual director.*)

4) How did you choose this resource person?

5) How often will you meet for spiritual direction sessions?

6) Amount Requested (*Please indicate amount charged per direction session along with total amount requested, not to exceed \$500*):

Amount per session: \$

Total amount requested: \$

7) Will you or your church be contributing resources to supplement any grant monies received?
(*Note: Such contributions are not required, but are of interest to the program.*)

Yes, estimated amount \$_____ No

8) How could you use what you learn through spiritual direction to benefit other Covenant pastors?

9) How do you intend to sustain the habits and practices learned through spiritual direction once the grant aid ends?

Return completed grant application by mail, email, or fax to:

Sustaining Pastoral Excellence, Department of the Ordered Ministry
Evangelical Covenant Church, 8303 W. Higgins Rd., Chicago, IL 60631
Fax: 773-583-3292 Telephone: 773-442-6581 spe@covchurch.org www.covchurch.org