



## Sustaining Pastoral Excellence – Competence Funding Application for Self-Selected Learning Experience

Pastors, missionaries, and chaplains may design and/or self-select ways to enhance their competence in the areas of preaching, leading, teaching, and caring. **Grants of up to \$500 for individuals** are available for those who make application in one of these areas of competence. Please review SPE eligibility requirements online before filling out the application: [www.covchurch.org/spe/application-eligibility](http://www.covchurch.org/spe/application-eligibility).

### 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.*

#### **Ministerial Standing:**

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 1<sup>st</sup>. 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 kind of learning opportunity are you making a grant application for, where will it be taken, who will be the presenter?

- 3) How did you choose this particular offering? What is its sustaining value?
- 4) How will this learning opportunity contribute to your growth in Christ and ministry effectiveness?
- 5) Amount Requested: \$
- 6) Please provide a detailed narrative breakdown of the amount requested and how the resources will be used.
- 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 to benefit other Covenant pastors?
- 9) Give an outline of how you will continue to supplement your learning in this particular area after the event you have participated in is over. List your future learning goals and potential resources to be used.

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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](mailto:spe@covchurch.org) [www.covchurch.org](http://www.covchurch.org)