

## CATALYST GRANTS

*“CATALYST: A stimulus that provokes or speeds significant change or action.”*

These grants will be provided by the Region to local ECR churches who apply for funding for projects that “jump start” missional ministry for Kingdom advancement.

1. **DURATION:** These grants will be for a period of one year; a grant cannot be given for the same project for a second year.
2. **GRANT AMOUNT:** The grant amount can be for an amount up to \$15,000, with the understanding that any requested amount must be documented and demonstrated to be necessary for the particular project. The total amount of grants provided by the region to local churches in any given calendar year is limited to \$40,000.
3. **MULTIPLE GRANT LIMIT:** No one church can be awarded more than two grants in any five year period and no more than one grant in any given year period, nor can one church receive grants in two consecutive years.
4. **PROJECT REQUIREMENTS:**
  - a. The grant may not be used for a purpose that primarily maintains an existing program, position or effort; this must be a new initiative for the church seeking the grant.
  - b. The ministry effort must expand the church’s relational footprint with people in the church’s sphere of influence and with the surrounding unchurched community.
  - c. The ministry must not be a “stand alone” initiative, but must be accompanied with an explanation of how the church will follow up and maximize the proposed ministry effort.
  - d. The grant could be used toward funding a new ministry position, provided the goals and expectations for that position are clearly delineated and the church provides sufficient documentation to demonstrate the position could be self-supporting after the grant expires.
5. **ACCOUNTABILITY:** The local church will provide a quarterly accounting of the use of the grant funds to the Regional Board. The Region reserves the right to distribute the funds in four equal installments through the grant year.

### PROCESS FOR APPLICATION:

1. The local church prepares a written application (provided by the Region); this application must be approved by that local church’s pastor and leadership team/church board.
2. The application will be reviewed within one month of the application’s submission by a “grant review team” appointed by the Regional Board.
3. Representatives (including the pastor) of the local church will then meet with the review team to discuss their proposal; at that time, the review team will share their observations, including elements for improvement that would increase the likelihood of approval should the first application not be accepted. In the event the review team asks for the grant application to be re-written, another meeting with the local church representatives may be requested once the application is adjusted.
4. If the review team deems the grant application acceptable, the proposal will be passed on with recommendation to the Regional Board for ratification and award.
5. The Regional Board reserves the right to refuse any grant request.
6. The Regional Board reserves the right to not consider applications from churches that are not currently fulfilling their apportionment responsibility. Further, the Regional Board may choose not to consider applications from churches that have not met their budgets or spent more than they have taken in during the previous two years.

### FOLLOW UP:

1. The church given the grant is responsible for informing the REB if any substantial changes take place in the grant year period that would change the trajectory of the project. If the project is terminated, all remaining unspent funds must be returned to the Region.
2. The church given the grant is to submit a summary evaluation of the project at the end of the grant year (see form).