



Mission Investment Fund
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Mission Investment Fund Poverty Grant Guidelines

1. ELCA congregations serving people living in poverty are a high priority for the Mission Investment Fund. All poverty grants will be made to ministries that serve people living in poverty and that have people who are living in poverty in leadership positions.
2. Poverty grants will be provided for capital expenses, such as land purchases, building expansions, building renovations and building maintenance. Capital improvements should enhance ministry among people living in poverty. The necessary funds, including the grant, should be sufficient to purchase property and/or complete a capital improvement.
3. The ministry should be financially sound and experiencing growth. Future ministry plans will be taken into account in the grant making process.
4. Ministries that receive poverty grants should not divert funds from mission support income to the capital project for which a grant is sought.
5. The synod will be asked to approve the grant request and convey the ministry's importance to the synod's work with people living in poverty.
6. Funding commitments and payments will normally only be made during one 12-month period beginning with the award of a grant.
7. Poverty grants will not exceed \$75,000.
8. Local participation is required. The grants provided by the fund will not exceed the amount raised by the local ministry for the capital project.
9. Grants will be distributed through a MissionPlus investment that has been purchased by a congregation or ELCA-related ministry.

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