

**Guidelines of the Board of Ordained Ministry of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference  
for Continuing Education Funding**

The guidelines shared here are in no set order. They are provided to encourage clergy members of our conference to apply for continuing education funding by showing the possibilities for funding.

In general, funding is designed to support participation in organized educational and spiritual growth activities.

A maximum of \$500 may be requested by a clergy member of our conference each calendar year. Full members, provisional members, diaconal ministers, and local pastors who are appointed by our bishop may receive funding. Those clergy who are not members of our conference but who are appointed by the bishop to a local church may receive consideration for an annual continuing education grant.

The cost of the continuing educational event includes any registration fees, cost of written materials or other required purchases such as specific software or electronic media, lodging and meals, and, under special circumstances, travel costs (normally we do not consider travel within the boundaries of our annual conference as an acceptable cost).

Since the Board of Ordained Ministry through the Ministerial Education Fund (MEF) collection significantly supports the annual Bishop's Convocation on Ministry, we do not fund individual requests for that event.

Often receiving certified CE units of credit costs additional money. In our conference we look at either CE units of credit or contact hours. We consider ten contact hours to be equivalent to one CE unit of credit. For example, if you are in contact with an instructor for ten hours and the instructor requires or suggests twenty hours of preparation before hand, we would consider this a ten hour event.

As a general rule, we do not fund any educational requirements that are needed in the ordination process.

Continuing education funds are also available for advanced degree and certification programs related to ministry beyond the required Masters Degree requirements for ordination. For these types of programs, a lifetime maximum of \$5000 is available. Normally, we make grants of \$1000 twice a year.

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