

Great Commission Fund (GCF) - Multi-cultural and Youth Ministry
Education Grants, Percept-ReVision Grants
Application Principles

Jesus said: “. . . All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28: 18-20)

Principles:

1. The purpose of the Great Commission Fund is to assist in funding mission development and outreach ministries by Southeastern Synod congregations. The GCF is not for emergency assistance funding. Ministries funded by the GCF should further the Great Commission and assist in implementing the Synod Outreach Strategies.
2. ReVision grants of up to \$500 per congregation are available for congregations entering the Percept ReVision process, a process of visioning and long range planning for congregations.
3. Education grants of up to \$250 per person per year are available from a total fund of \$2500 per year, for the purpose of attending an ELCA supported multi-cultural or anti-racism educational training or event. These funds will be distributed through the congregations of those persons who are awarded the grants.
4. Education grants of up to \$250 per person per year are available from a total fund of \$2500 per year, for the purpose of attending an ELCA supported educational event or training in the area of youth ministry. These funds will be distributed through the congregations of those persons who are awarded the grants.

The Mission of the ELCA - Southeastern Synod says: “Walking together, in the Great Commission, the Southeastern Synod will faithfully and inclusively share a message of grace and faith in Jesus Christ with all peoples. We will witness and serve, nurture faith through baptism and teaching, and restore peace and unity to all of God’s creation.”

The Strategies for accomplishing the Mission are:

1. *Cultivate and nurture faith through God’s Word and living the Great Commission;*
2. *Continually witness transformation in individuals, congregations, agencies and institutions;*
3. *Challenge the barriers of racism, sexism, classism, and ageism and work to eliminate them wherever they exist;*
4. *Develop and support lay and rostered leaders of all ages;*
5. *Network congregations both geographically and according to size, context and ministries;*
6. *Establish clear, open lines of communication;*
7. *Provide excellent and accessible resources;*
8. *Listen, discern spiritual gifts and needs, and encourage grass roots Great Commission ministries throughout the synod;*
9. *Celebrate and share our Lutheran Christian heritage, the center of which is the crucified and living Christ.*

ReVision Grants

The Commission for Transforming Congregations must receive all ReVison Grant applications in time for review prior to Synod Council meetings. Synod Council meets in January, June and September. If approved, notification will be made approximately one month after the Synod Council Meeting.

Annual deadlines: December 1; April 1; July1

Questions? Contact Mobley Hope in the Synod Office at 404-589-1977, ext 230 or mhope@elca-ses.org.

Education Grants

Education grant requests should be received no less than 2 months prior to the event or training for which they will be used. The Commission for Transforming Congregations will consider applications and notification will be made to requestors as soon as possible.

Accountability

1. The Commission for Transforming Congregations will be responsible for monitoring this fund.
2. Written reports are required following completion of ReVision Process or Education event, describing the impact on the congregations or individuals Great Commission Ministry.

To apply for Great Commission Fund ReVision or Education Grants:

Send completed applications to:
Great Commission Fund Requests
ELCA-Southeastern Synod
100 Edgewood Ave, Suite 1600
Atlanta, GA 30303

**GREAT COMMISSION FUND (GCF)
REVISION AND EDUCATION GRANTS APPLICATION**

Date: _____

Please indicate which type of Grant are you applying for.

_____ **ReVision Grant**

Amount requested \$ _____ (\$500 maximum)

_____ **Education Grant**

_____ Multi-cultural or Anti-Racism Training or

_____ Youth Ministry Leadership Training

Amount requested \$ _____ (\$250 maximum total)

Please indicate the actual or estimated cost for:

Event Registration \$ _____ Travel \$ _____ Housing \$ _____

Name and title of person(s) completing this application

Name

Title

Congregation _____

Congregational ID #(s) _____

How many members does your congregation have? _____

Congregation Address

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Phone # _____ Fax # _____ E-mail _____

Signatures: Applicant _____

Pastor _____

Congregational Council President _____

Please answer the following questions pertaining to the grant you are requesting on a separate sheet of paper and return with your application.

ReVision Grant Applicants:

1. What is the total estimated budget for this Project? Please attach a breakdown of your budget to your application.
2. What is the time-line for your long-range planning process?
3. Are you receiving other funding for this project from outside of the congregation?
Yes ___ No ___
If yes, please describe:
4. Where are you in your long-range vision or strategy planning?
5. Who will be part of the leadership team who will guide your congregation through the ReVisioning process? What roles do they have within your congregation?
6. What is your expectation of what ReVision will bring to your congregation?
7. In what way do you expect ReVision to impact your congregation's living the Great Commission?

Education Grant Applicants:

1. What is the Training or Event for which you will use this Education Grant?
- 2.. When and where is the event being held? (Note: Applications received within two months of the event will not be considered)
3. Is your congregation giving you any financial support in attending this Training or Event?
Yes _____ No _____
If yes, what amount will they be contributing?
4. Are you (please check all that apply):
Pastor _____ AIM _____ Church staff _____ Volunteer _____
5. What do you expect to learn/gain from this experience?
6. How will your congregation and the larger church benefit from your attending this Training or Event?
7. How will this experience impact your living out the Great Commission?