



## **Mission Trip Grant Guidelines**

The Presbytery of Lake Erie provides grants to encourage members of our congregations to take the plunge and participate in mission trips. Our hope is to provide an opportunity for more and more of us to experience the transformative nature of such trips.

Mission trips change us. They expose us to others cultures, from the cultures of inner city America, to the culture of Appalachia, as well as to cultures in countries around the world. These trips also expose us to the tremendous needs that people in many places struggle with. Mission trips expand our world views, they deepen our faith, and they open our hearts. For all of these reasons the Mission Committee of our presbytery offers scholarship money targeted at people going on their first mission trip.

Because our primary goal is to expose as many new people as possible to the growth that occurs when we take mission trips, we will now be providing a higher level of funding for first time travelers.

Our guidelines therefore will now be as follows.

1. Short term mission travelers' first grant request will be funded at 50% of the cost of their trip up to a maximum \$400/person with a cap of \$4,000 per group.
2. Second time requests will also be considered for a grant as well but will be funded at 25% of their trip costs up to a maximum \$200/person.
3. The \$4,000 cap applies to all groups whatever the mix of first timers, second timers, and old veteran travelers.
4. The applicant or group must be endorsed by the session of their church.
5. The money is available only on mission trips in which the applicant will be involved as a worker. We do not fund attendance at seminars, tours, or pilgrimages.
6. Applicants who receive funds will be expected to share their experiences when they return home. This is spelled out further in the feedback form at the end of this packet.
7. You can download the necessary forms from the Presbytery's web site [www.pbylakeerie.org](http://www.pbylakeerie.org), Financial Resources for Churches.

### **Send application to:**

**The Presbytery of Lake Erie**  
**ATTN: Mission and Social Witness**  
**2816 Elmwood Avenue**  
**Erie, PA 16508**  
**ATTN: Mission Travel Grants**  
Or email to [adminasst@pbylakeerie.org](mailto:adminasst@pbylakeerie.org)

## Mission Trip Grant APPLICATION

The Presbytery of Lake Erie, 2816 Elmwood Avenue, Erie, PA 16508; 814-868-4891

The Presbytery of Lake Erie provides travel grants to encourage members of the congregations to participate in mission trips. Please review the mission travel grant guidelines before applying.

### Section 1- Required Information

1. Applicant's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*If this is a group application, please list the primary contact person here.*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

2. This is an Individual Application (*Part A*) Group Application (*Part B*)

*Part A* – Is this your first or second mission grant request? \_\_\_\_\_

*Part B* – How many participants are in your group? \_\_\_\_\_

How many are traveling are making their first grant request? \_\_\_\_\_

How many are traveling are making a second grant request? \_\_\_\_\_

*Please List all participants on separate page*

3. Departure date: \_\_\_\_\_ Return date: \_\_\_\_\_ Destination: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Member of which Presbyterian Church (USA): \_\_\_\_\_

Church address: \_\_\_\_\_

**As Pastor or the Moderator of the above Church, I have reviewed this application for a travel grant and endorse the applicant's mission participation plans.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

**The Session reviewed this application at its \_\_\_\_\_ meeting and hereby approves it.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2 – Mission Plans**

1. Write a brief description of your Mission Opportunity listing specific hands-on opportunities and including the potential for cross-cultural experience. Attach a separate page if necessary.

2. How will your participation in this mission trip enhance your commitment to Jesus Christ and your service in the Church? Attach a separate page if necessary.

3. How do you intend to prepare yourself or your group for this mission experience? (Please note: suggested resources are available by contacting the Presbytery Office.)

**Section 3 - Budget**

1. How much is your trip going to cost per person?

Travel ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodations ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Food ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Mission related activities... \_\_\_\_\_

Total cost per person..... \_\_\_\_\_

Total cost per the group.... \_\_\_\_\_

2. How much are you requesting in total? \_\_\_\_\_

As a recipient of this grant I understand that I, or a member of my group, will be asked to complete a follow-up form, and may be invited to speak about my trip to Presbyterian-related groups upon completion of the trip.

Applicant's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Mission Trip Resources

The **PC (USA)** has several resources available. Helpful information is available online at <http://www.pcusa.org/missiontrips/>. You can order other materials through the Presbyterian Distribution Service, at <http://store.pcusa.org/> or 1-800-524-2612.

- *When God's People Travel Together Volume I : A Trip Leaders Traveling Manual* (PDS #7027099009)
- *When God's People Travel Together Volume II: Reflecting and Acting on Mission Trip Experiences* (PDS # 7027099022)
- *When God's People Travel Together Volume III: Bible Studies for Mission* (PDS # 7440099083)
- *People, Places and Partnerships* (PDS # 7428004010)

**Here are several other helpful resources available for ordering online.**

Aeschliman, Gordon, Ed. *The Short Term Mission Handbook*

Anthony, Michael J., Ed. *Short Term Missions Boom: A Guide to International and Domestic Involvement*

Borthwick, Paul. *Missions: God's Heart for the World*

Dearborn, Tim. *Short-Term Missions Workbook: From Mission Tourists to Global Citizens*

Forward, David C. *The Essential Guide to the Short Term Mission Trip*

Gibson, Timothy et al, Eds. *Stepping Out: A Guide to Short Term Missions*

Hoke, Steve and Bill Taylor. *Send Me! Your Journey to the Nations*

Judge, Cindy. *Before You Pack Your Bag Prepare Your Heart: Short Term Mission Preparation Guide*

Kitahata, Stacy D. *Having an Excellent Adventure: A Handbook for Responsible Travel*

Stiles, J. Mack & Leeann. Mack & Leeann's *Guide to Short Term Missions*

*The Short Term Mission Handbook. Berry Publishing Services Inc.*

We would also recommend that you make use of resources available from **World Mission Initiative** on their website:

<http://worldmissioninitiative.org/index.php/resources/mission-trip-resources>

## Mission Trip Grant Follow-up Form

As we seek to give more of our church members a mission experience we ask that all recipients of a grant commit to telling the presbytery about the benefits of such trips. So we ask that when you return from you trip you write a few paragraphs explaining what the trip meant to you. Here are some questions we would like you to consider:

1. Has the trip caused you to grow in your faith? How?
2. What did you learn about God? The world? The church?
3. How could the trip have been better?
4. Did the trip expand your view of the world? How?

Please submit a reflection based on these questions, no longer than 1 typed page, to the Presbytery Office no later than 1 month following your mission trip.