

# Ministerial Excellence Fund

*2 Corinthians 9:8*

*And God is able to make all grace abound  
to you, so that having all sufficiency in  
all things at all times, you may  
abound in every good work.*



A ministry of American Baptist Churches of  
Indiana and Kentucky & Greater Indianapolis for the  
benefit of American Baptist Professional Church Leaders  
in Indiana, Kentucky and Greater Indianapolis.

**Complete information regarding MEF can be found  
on the ABC-IN/KY & ABC-GI websites:  
[www.abc-indiana.org](http://www.abc-indiana.org)  
[www.abcgi.org](http://www.abcgi.org)**

## PURPOSE

The Ministerial Excellence Fund (MEF) exists to provide assistance to Professional Church Leaders (PCLs) facing financial difficulties that prevent them from focusing on the greater tasks of Kingdom ministry. By removing barriers of financial hardship and need, the path is cleared for pastors to focus on, develop, and implement excellence in their personal ministry in service to their local churches. These grants are funded through donations by individuals and churches to the MEF Sustaining Fund.

## WHO QUALIFIES FOR A GRANT?

Pastors or PCLs currently serving in ABC-IN/KY or ABC-GI region, whose church supports United Mission or regional offerings in the current or previous year.

*“Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”  
Hebrews 4:16 ESV*

## WHAT KINDS OF NEEDS DOES THE GRANT ADDRESS?

- Health care costs, including medical bills, sudden illness, etc.
- Emergencies, accidents, and disasters.
- Consumer debt.

### ***No grant monies are available for:***

- Supplementing retirement or savings accounts of any kind
- Supplementing local church budgets
- Providing salary support or benefits, such as insurance, retirement funds, etc.
- Eliminating student loan debt
- Providing scholarships for educational or continuing education opportunities for college, seminary, CLI, etc.

## WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO APPLY?

- Fill out the grant application and family budget sheet.
- Contact Mike Wilson (wswilson@aol.com) to get the name of an approved financial advisor (at no charge to you).
- Meet with the approved advisor to discuss your situation.
- Submit your application, budget sheet, and advisor’s recommendations to Mike Wilson.

## WHAT’S NEXT?

The MEF Team will consider your application. Your church will need to decide what kind of match or gift they can give to participate in the grant. They might consider a love gift from the Deacon’s Fund, a special offering from the congregation or association, or a fund-raising event. These gifts provide opportunities for generosity in the life of the church. If you are hesitant to ask your church for a match or gift, please contact Soozie Ford (ABC-IN/KY) or Joan Friesen (ABC-GI).

*“But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also.” 11 Corinthians 8:7 ESV*

## FINAL THOUGHTS

The MEF Sustaining Fund relies upon the generous giving of individuals, associations, and churches. Your generosity makes this ministry possible. You may direct your contributions to either region, specifying MEF Sustaining Fund.

**ABC-IN/KY: 1350 N Delaware St. Indianapolis, IN 46202**

**ABC-GI: 1100 W 42nd St. Suite 218 Indianapolis, IN 46208**