

**ITEM F.111
FOR ACTION**

FOR PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE USE ONLY			
A. Resource Allocation & Stewardship		D. Coordinating Committee	G. Outreach to the World
B. Personnel & Nominating		E. Mid-Councils	H. Ministerial Teams
C. Property/Legal		F. Nurture the Body	P. Plenary

Subject: Modifications to the Mission Program Grant Policies

Recommendation:

The Mission Development Resources Committee recommends that the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve the following changes be made to the Mission Program Grants that support New Worshiping Communities:

- 1. That the scope of the Health Insurance Grant be broadened and renamed Health Care Grant, in order to also allow for reimbursement of out-of-pocket Health Care expenses.**
- 2. That the maximum allowable amount for a New Worshiping Community leader to receive from the redesigned Health Care Grant be increased from up-to \$1,500 per year to up-to \$3,000 per year.**
- 3. That the maximum amount allowable for a New Worshiping Community to receive from the Seed Grant be increased from up-to \$7,500 to up-to \$10,000.**
- 4. That the maximum amount allowable for a New Worshiping Community to receive from the Investment Grant be increased from up-to \$25,000 to up-to \$30,000.**
- 5. That the maximum amount allowable for a New Worshiping Community to receive from the Growth Grant be increased from up-to \$25,000 to up-to \$30,000.**
- 6. That all New Worshiping Communities be required to submit through the Office of the General Assembly a Church Change Form prior to being considered for Seed Grant funding.**
- 7. That the Discerning Missional Leadership requirement be satisfied by all New Worshiping Community leaders prior to being eligible to apply for an Investment Grant.**

Background:

The requested changes represent the improvements recommended to the Board by the Mission Development Resources Committee members (MDRC). The MDRC met in Kansas City, MO, on October 14, 2019 during The Perspectives Conference. The Mission Program Grants currently being offered meet the same needs, have the same basic requirements and ranges of awards as when they were created at the beginning of the 1001 New Worshiping Communities initiative.

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Racial Equity & Women's Intercultural Ministries

Based on what has been learned since the beginning of the initiative, the requested changes will allow these programs to be of more relevant and substantive help to these communities.

The descriptions below describe the grant programs as currently designed and offered.

Mission Program Grants are intended to be for short-term, start-up, and supplemental operating support for projects which meet the eligibility criteria, have been well researched and planned, and demonstrate that they have a reasonably good chance of meeting their goals and objectives. Projects that are not well conceived may be denied funding even in years when there may be unexpended funds.

Seed Grant: New worshipping communities may apply for a one-time grant of up to \$7,500. Matching funds are not required.

Investment Grant: Twelve months after receipt of a Seed Grant, a one-time grant of up to \$25,000 is possible. Approval of Investment Grants is conditioned upon real progress having been made toward meeting the definition of a new worshipping community.

Growth Grant: The Growth Grant supports and encourages new worshipping communities whose process of faithful discernment has led them to establish a new ministry, responsive to the needs of a new group of people, with the ultimate goal of growing a viable, sustainable, Christ-centered, and PC(USA)-related new worshipping community. Approval of a Growth grant is conditioned upon significant progress being made toward meeting the goals and objectives as outlined in the Investment Grant proposal. Eighteen months after receipt of an Investment Grant, a one-time grant of up to \$25,000 is possible.

Health Insurance Grant: This grant program provides supplemental funding to the partner congregation and/or presbytery in support of new church organizing pastors or new worshipping community leaders who would not otherwise be able to afford health insurance. Presbyteries may apply on behalf of new congregations and new worshipping communities for an annual grant of up to \$1,500. This grant is twice renewable, for a total of three years, upon approval of an application each year.