



**Northern Illinois District**  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Mission Target Grants Committee  
Northern Illinois District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
2301 S Wolf Road, Hillside, IL 60162 • 708-449-3020

## **MISSION TARGET GRANT REQUEST GUIDELINES**

1. The Mission Target Grants Committee of the LCMS Northern Illinois District (NID) will consider requests for grants for all programs consistent with the goals of the NID. Grants may be submitted by NID congregations, schools, preschools, circuits, associations, and Recognized Service Organizations.
2. Requests incorporating one or more of the following will receive particular attention:
  - Innovative projects that are designed to connect and engage with people in the surrounding community so that relationships can be developed and the potential for ministry occurs. All projects will lead to a clear witness to the Gospel as our Lord opens doors and creates opportunities.
  - Specialized training for groups or individuals that will equip them to better serve in the NID and the Synod, as well as to carry out the first bullet point.
  - Ministry initiatives which will lead, God willing, to new ways of incorporating Word+Wellness+Witness, as ways to help people learn about Jesus including but not limited to mission starts, church plants, expansion of current outreach-focused ministries, enhanced school connections to the community, and RSO launches and expansions.
3. The following will not be considered:
  - Grants to foundations or other grant-making institutions or organizations.
  - Grants directed to individuals.
  - Grants not in keeping with the goals of the Northern Illinois District nor those proposals which do not conform to our confession of the Gospel.
4. The approval of a grant in no way implies a commitment to continuing support. As there is no cap on the size of Mission Target Grants, granted funds may be utilized over a three-year period, once grant is awarded. No funding is granted beyond year three.
5. While not the priority for this grant, the Mission Target Grant may be used for efforts that are part of the operational budget of the project applicant or to assist in covering the cost of a new church worker at the ministry, provided that the following standards are met: 1. The budget item or the new church worker position addresses the criteria found in point #1 above, 2. The ministry is only seeking that the Mission Target Grant comprises no more than 30% of the budgeted item in any one year, 3. The applicant agrees to review the stewardship efforts of the ministry with the NID's Assistant to the President – Mission and Ministry and follow his recommendations with regard to stewardship development. 4. The applicant demonstrates how over a three-year period the ministry effort will become self-sustaining.
6. Applicants must complete the attached "Application for the NID Mission Target Grant."
7. Grant requests may be received throughout the year by the Mission Target Grant Committee. The committee is appointed by the District President with the approval of the Administrative Services Committee. The Mission Target Grant Committee will convene to review submitted proposals on the last Monday of February and August each year. Upon review, the committee will make



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recommendations to the NID Board of Directors at the Board's March and September meetings. Recipients will be notified as soon as possible, and funding may begin upon notification. This grant uses a receipt-based system. When receipts are submitted, funds will be released.

8. Those receiving assistance must expend the funds within (thirty-six) months. Grants unspent after that time period will revert to the fund for reallocation unless extenuating circumstances exist. In the latter case the recipient must formally request an extension from the Mission Target Grants Committee, explain the circumstances involved, and receive permission to retain the unspent balance.

9. Recipients are encouraged to develop a broad base of support for their activity.

10. Recipients will submit an annual progress report on the mission project (noting fulfillment of mission targets, celebration points, where further support is needed, and stated goals for the following year) to the Assistant to the President – Mission and Ministry. The first report will be submitted within 10 months of receiving notification of the grant's award. Recipients will submit a final report to the NID Mission Target Grants Committee upon completion of the funded project. The final report should describe the work, evaluate the Project in terms of specific objectives, and give a financial accounting of how the funds entrusted to their care were expended

11. Recipients will publicly acknowledge the support received in a manner agreed upon with the Mission Target Grants Committee. The LCMS Northern Illinois District Board of Directors, through its Communications Manager, will also publicize all grants.



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## **APPLICATION FOR NID MISSION TARGET GRANT**

1. Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_
2. Name of Project \_\_\_\_\_
3. Originating Entity \_\_\_\_\_
4. Director \_\_\_\_\_
5. Project Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_
6. Date Project will begin \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Project will end \_\_\_\_\_
7. Total Cost of Project \_\_\_\_\_
8. Amount of funding requested from NID \_\_\_\_\_
9. Describe the project. (Feel free to answer this and the following questions on separate paper in order to give the Mission Target Grant Committee a clearer picture of what you are trying to achieve, why you are trying to achieve it, and how you intend to make your ministry project a reality.)
10. What is your goal? (Tell how this project fits into the overall vision or “big picture” of what your ministry is trying to accomplish.)
11. How does the proposed project fit into the district vision of Word+Wellness+Witness in the hearts and lives of the people serving and those served?
12. What are the **specific objectives** of the proposed project? (What are the short-term outcomes that you expect to see from this project?) The objectives must be measurable.
13. What is the **plan of action** to accomplish your objective(s)?
14. Why is the project significant? (Who will benefit from this project? What led you to propose this project?)
15. Will you need future funding? If so, how do you propose to obtain it?
16. Attach your proposed budget. In addition, receipts for monies spent are required (mentioned above).

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For Mission Target Grant Committee Use Only

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Disposition: \_\_\_\_\_