

POST GRADUATE GRANTS HANDBOOK

Congratulations on your successful completion of the educational requirements for the Congregational Foundation for Theological Studies (CFTS). As a graduate of the program you are eligible for Post Graduate Grants. This handbook will explain the Post Graduate Grant program, help you discern your eligibility and guide you in the application process.

HISTORY: In 1962, The National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC) founded the Congregational Foundation for Theological Studies (CFTS) to support and encourage men and women preparing for Congregational ministry. At its founding, CFTS primarily supported seminarians intending to serve in parish ministry. Over the years, many churches have expanded their understanding of ministry to include chaplaincy and pastoral care ministry. CFTS seeks to encourage and support individuals who intend to serve in ministry through churches of the Congregational Way.

PARAMETERS: Post-graduate grants are available for an individual who has graduated from CFTS and is serving in ministry with a member church in the NACCC. The grants may be used to supplement a salary, pay down student loans, or be applied to other individual needs. To be eligible, the CFTS graduate must hold membership in an NACCC member church and be able to demonstrate their significant involvement in a ministry of benefit to an NACCC member church or churches. This ministry may or may not be where the individual also holds membership. Recipients may serve as pastor of an NACCC church, or may be involved in some other ministry in a local church, even if the church is not their primary place of employment. The key parameter is that a vital engagement with a local Congregational church or churches is evident.

AWARDS: Grant awards are made by application. Applications must be made within three years of CFTS graduation. The amount of award will depend upon grant monies available in any given year with a maximum award of \$5,000 per individual per year for up to three years. Grant amounts issued are at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Grants must be renewed annually.

HOW TO APPLY: To apply, fill out and submit the following application. Applications are reviewed by the Board of Directors twice a year. Application deadlines are May 1 and September 1 and may be sent to the Dean.

ACCEPTANCE: All applications are subject to the review of the Board of Directors of CFTS. A personal interview with the Board *may* be requested. The final decision for acceptance is made by the Board of Directors with input from the Dean.

CONCERNS: If you have any questions or concerns about the CFTS requirements, please call the Dean. There is some flexibility to accommodate special student circumstances.

CFTS CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rev. Dr. Charles Packer
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West Bloomfield, Michigan 48323

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CONGREGATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR THEOLOGICAL STUDIES
A MINISTRY OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES
REV. DR. CHARLES PACKER, DIRECTOR

APPLICATION FOR POST GRADUATE GRANT

I would like to apply for a post graduate grant for ministry in a local Congregational Church. Thank you.

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone:

Cell: _____ Home: _____ Work: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Church (Name, City/Town, State) _____

Senior Pastor _____

Current Information:

Current Employer: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Ministry Site

In what church or churches will your ministry take place?

Name of Church(es) _____

City/Town _____ State _____

Regional Association _____

Ministry

Please tell us how you are involved in ministry in an NACCC church.

Is this ministry your primary occupation? _____

What is the anticipated duration of this ministry? _____

This is a (check one): First year application _____ Second year renewal _____ Third year renewal _____

Your CFTS graduation date was _____

I have read the Post Graduate Grants Handbook and understand the program's stated requirements.

Signed _____ Date _____

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