



LEADERSHIP GENERATION FUND

LEVEL 3 APPLICATION

CONTACT INFORMATION

First Name: _____ Last name: _____
Date of Birth: _____ Gender: [] Male [] Female
Spouse's Name (if married): _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Email Address: _____
Phone: _____ T-Shirt Size: _____

SUPPORTING CHURCH INFORMATION

Church Name: _____
Church Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Church Email: _____
Church Phone: _____

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION (the agency providing the leadership training opportunity)

Name of School/Organization: _____
School/Organization Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
School/Organization Email: _____
School/Organization Phone: _____
Degree and Major: _____

SCHOLARSHIP REQUEST INFORMATION

Date of Request: _____ Date Funds are Needed: _____
Approximate Total Cost of Program: _____
Approximate Amount Applicant is Responsible for: _____

Check the appropriate box (up to \$3,000 for seminary students):

Fresno Pacific University

Multiply: _____

Tabor College

Other Approved Opportunities:

By signing below, I affirm that my current intent is to pursue a career in pastoral ministry with the Mennonite Brethren or mission assignment with Multiply.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

LEVEL 3 CHECKLIST

1. Application completed.
2. Testimony attached and includes a description of your sense of calling, specific ministry aspiration, if known, and steps you are taking for pursuing/discerning your call.
3. Covenant Statement.
4. Ministry Aspiration Statement.
5. Ministry Verification if applicable (If you are seeking a scholarship for an internship/residency, please include the length of service, job or program description, and name of church supervisor.)
6. Degree Verification if applicable (with current class schedule or course of study verifying ministry preparation).
7. Ministry Discernment Process.
8. MB Confession of Faith Affirmation.
9. Application from host organization, if applicable.

SUBMITTAL

Please print, sign and email your Application and supporting documents to LeadGen@mbfoundation.com or

*MB Foundation
Attn: LeadGen
200 East D Street, P.O. Box 220
Hillsboro, KS 67063*

If you have any questions, please direct them there as well or call toll-free 1.800.551.1547.

What happens next?

Your application will be reviewed and contact will be made with those you have disclosed in the application. You will be notified of our decision in a timely manner. All funds are distributed to the organization and not to the individual.

Thank you for your interest in Leadership Generation Fund!



TESTIMONY

In approximately 500 words, please attach a description of your conversion experience, baptism and understanding of God's call on your life and please include the following:

- Significant and formative events and relationships along with an explanation of how these have influenced and shaped you.
- A summary of your current experience of following Jesus Christ.
- If this is a renewal application, please include updated information noting formative events, relationships and understandings since your last application.
- Your name, signature and date.



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COVENANT STATEMENT

This statement represents a covenant between _____ (applicant) and the Leadership Generation Fund Awards Committee (the Committee).

I understand eligibility for approval is conditional upon agreement with all of the following (check all that apply):

- My being a member of an MB church prior to the date of the application.
- My maintaining an active involvement in a church in my location of study.
- My being accepted as participant in an MB leadership/mission opportunity or a degree-seeking student in a participating MB school or other approved school.
- If applicable, my achieving satisfactory progress toward graduation and maintaining the minimum grade standards in my degree program.
- If applicable, my submitting to the Committee:
 - Copies of official course schedules indicating number of credit hours for which I am registered.
 - Signed statement from registrar's office after each semester confirming that courses have been successfully completed.
- The fact that full-time students are given funding preference over part-time students, and requests will be processed in the order in which they were received.
- My intention, God willing, is to pursue a career in pastoral ministry with the Mennonite Brethren or mission assignment with Multiply.

Please provide a brief description of your call to be an MB pastor or missionary. How are you discerning or pursuing this call? Where are you at in the discernment process?

Signature: _____ Date: _____



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MINISTRY ASPIRATION STATEMENT

In approximately 200 words, please attach a response to the following:

- A clear description of the kind of ministry you intend to pursue in pastoral ministry or global mission.
- A declaration of your intention to pursue ministry/mission with the Mennonite Brethren Church.
- Updated description (if this is a renewal application).
- Your name, signature and date.



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MINISTRY OR DEGREE VERIFICATION

If you are seeking a scholarship for an internship/residency, please include the length of service, job or program description, and name of church supervisor.

If you are seeking a scholarship for formal education, please attach an unofficial class schedule that indicates the number of credit hours for which you are registered as documentation verifying you are exploring a pastoral, ministry-related, or mission degree.



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MINISTRY DISCERNMENT PROCESS

As a requirement for Level 3 Leadership Scholarship funds, the applicant must go through a ministry discernment process with his/her supporting church. Please complete the information below and attach a summary description, written by your pastor or ministry leader, of the ministry discernment process.

Eligibility: As leaders we have discerned the spiritual gifts, leadership capacity and ministry potential for _____ (name of applicant). We believe God has blessed this individual with ministry gifts and recommend him/her for the Leadership Generation Fund. It is our hope that this scholarship will encourage him/her to hone his/her God given skills and gifts and ultimately use those gifts in local church ministry, missions and wherever God leads.

We confirm that applicant is a member of _____ (name of church).

Discernment Process Leader's Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Discernment Process Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Moderator's Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Moderator's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Pastor's Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Pastor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

A proposed sample ministry discernment process is outlined in *Finding Leaders for Tomorrow's Churches*, a resource of the Canadian Mennonite Brethren Conference. It can be found online at:

www.mennonitebrethren.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Finding-leaders-for-tomorrows-churches.pdf

A proposed sample discernment process is as follows*:

- It is the church's responsibility to identify participants for the discernment process. (p. 5-8)
- Identify/assign an individual to act as the leader of the discernment process and choose a discernment team. (p.11-12)
- The leader of the discernment process meets with the candidate to agree on the timeline and elements of the discernment process. (p. 13)
- The candidate prepares a personal profile and reviews it with the leader of the discernment process. (p. 14-15)
- Prior to reading the candidate's profile, members of the discernment team should write reflections about the candidate's suitability for his/her desired ministry direction. (p. 15)
- Once the candidate is satisfied with his/her profile, a copy is given to the discernment team leader for distribution to the other team members. (p. 15)
- Each member of the discernment team reviews the candidate's profile. Discernment team members are encouraged to meet individually with the candidate and often find it valuable to take the candidate out for coffee or lunch to ask any questions. (p. 15)
- The discernment leader makes arrangements for the discernment meeting (a three-hour allowance is recommended) and designates someone to take detailed notes. (p. 15)
- The discernment team meets with the candidate. (p. 16)
- The discernment team debriefs without the candidate present and reviews specific follow-up assignments for team members. (p. 16)
- The leader of the discernment team follows up on the conclusions of the discernment meeting and prepares a written summary to be included with the application. This should include:
 - A summary of the candidate's profile and their giftedness and ministry plans.
 - A summary of insight and counsel discussed.
 - A statement of recommendation for Leadership Generation Scholarship funds.
Example: "We have encouraged _____ to pursue further education in preparation for ministry. We are recommending him/her to MB Foundation for Level 3 Scholarship Funds. Specific observations and affirmations that have led us to this point include . . ."
- Consider next steps such as:
 - Identify an individual who will be responsible for nurturing the candidate's growth in ministry. (p. 17)
 - Create an occasion to bless the candidate for ministry and recognize his/her response to the call of God and the church to pursue ministry. (p. 17)
 - Provide hands-on experience, giving opportunities to experience ministry. (p. 18)
 - Continue contact and support as a sending church. (p. 19)

*Note the page numbers in the steps above correspond to *Finding Leaders for Tomorrow's Churches*.



MB CONFESSION OF FAITH AFFIRMATION

Please read the complete Confession of Faith found online at <https://usmb.org/confession-of-faith-4/>. The following summary is based on the complete and official Confession of Faith. Level 3 Scholarship Fund applicants are asked to review and comment on areas of similarity and difference with their own theological beliefs.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

1. God

We believe in the one true God, the source of all life, who reigns over all things as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and who lovingly cares for all creation. God the Father planned the redemption of humanity and sent Jesus Christ the Son to be the Savior of the world. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God, bringing good news to the poor and triumphing over sin through His obedient life, death and resurrection. God the Holy Spirit empowers believers with new life, indwells them and unites them in one body.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

2. The Revelation of God

We believe God has made Himself known to all people. Beginning with creation and culminating in Jesus Christ, God has revealed Himself in the Old and New Testaments. All Scripture is inspired by God, and is the authoritative guide for faith and practice. We interpret the Scripture in the church community as guided by the Holy Spirit.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

3. Humanity and Sin

We believe God created the heavens and the earth, and they were good. Humans, God's crowning act, were created in the image of God. Sin has alienated humanity from the Creator and creation, but God offers redemption and reconciliation through Jesus Christ.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

4. Sin and Evil

We believe sin is individual and corporate opposition to God's good purposes and leads to physical and spiritual death.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

5. Salvation By Grace

We believe God saves all people who put their faith in Jesus Christ. By His obedient life, sacrificial death and victorious resurrection, Christ delivers people from the tyranny of sin and death and redeems them

for eternal life in the age to come. All creation eagerly awaits its liberation from bondage into the freedom of the glory of God's children.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

6. The Nature of the Church

We believe the church is the covenant community called by God through Jesus Christ to live a life of discipleship and witness as empowered by the Holy Spirit. The local church gathers regularly for worship, fellowship and accountability and to discern, develop and exercise gifts for ministry.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

7. The Mission of the Church

We believe the mission of the church is to make disciples of all nations by calling people to repent, to be baptized and to love God and neighbors by sharing the good news and doing acts of love and compassion.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

8. Christian Baptism

We believe baptism by water is a public sign that a person has repented of sin, received forgiveness, died with Christ and has been raised to new life through the power of the Holy Spirit. Baptism is also a public declaration of a believer's incorporation into the body of Christ as expressed in the local church.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

9. Lord's Supper

We believe that in obedience to Christ, the church observes the Lord's Supper as a remembrance of His atoning death and to celebrate forgiveness, new life and the fellowship and unity of all believers.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

10. Discipleship

We believe Jesus calls people who have experienced the new birth to follow Him in a costly life of service to God. The power of the Holy Spirit transforms believers from the unrighteous pattern of the present age into a life of joyful obedience with God's people.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

11. Marriage, Singleness and Family

We believe that singleness and marriage are honored by God and should be blessed by the church. God instituted marriage as a lifelong covenant between a man and a woman for the purpose of companionship, encouragement, sexual intimacy and procreation. Children are a gift from God and should be nurtured by parents in the ways of God.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

12. Society and State

We believe that God instituted the state to promote justice and to maintain law and order. Christians' primary allegiance is to Christ's kingdom. Believers are called to witness against injustice, exercise social responsibility and obey all laws that do not conflict with the Word of God.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

13. Love, Peacemaking and Reconciliation

We believe that God in Christ reconciles people to Himself and to one another, making peace through the cross. As peacemakers we alleviate suffering, reduce strife, promote justice and work to end violence and war, that others may see a demonstration of Christ's love. As in other Peace Churches, many of us choose not to participate in the military but rather in alternative forms of service.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

14. The Sanctity of Human Life

We believe that God is creator and giver of life and highly values each person. Procedures designed to take human life are wrong. We oppose all attitudes that devalue human life, especially the defenseless lives of the unborn, disabled, poor, aging and dying.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

15. Stewardship

We believe the universe and everything in it belongs to God the Creator, and that we have been entrusted by God to manage its resources. All God's gifts, including money, time, abilities and influence, are to be received with thanksgiving, used responsibly and shared generously.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

16. Work, Rest and The Lord's Day

We believe God's act of creation provides the model for work and rest. In work, we use our abilities to glorify God and serve others. In rest, we express thanks for God's provision and trust in God's sustaining grace. In worship, we gather to commemorate the resurrection through worship, instruction, fellowship and service.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

17. Christianity and Other Faiths

We believe God's atoning work in Jesus is the only means of reconciling people with God. God has not left any without a witness to the Creator's goodness and power. Christians treat people of other faiths with respect, but urgently proclaim Christ as the only way of salvation.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

18. Christ's Final Triumph

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ will return triumphantly at the end of this age to destroy all evil powers, condemn all who have rejected Christ to eternal punishment and unite believers with Christ to reign forever with God in glory.

Fully Support Some Variance Major Variance

Comment:

I affirm the above responses:

Signature: _____ Date: _____