

**COMMISSION ON EQUITABLE COMPENSATION
OF THE
UPPER NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

2024 PRIMARY APPLICATION

FOR CONFERENCE SALARY SUPPORT

FOR A 6 MONTH PERIOD

July-December 2024

APPLICATION DEADLINE (to District Superintendent):

April 19, 2024

IMPORTANT NOTE: To ensure smooth review and consideration of your application, please be sure to thoroughly read through the application and complete it in its entirety. Lack of required information could result in an application being denied.

**COMMISSION ON EQUITABLE COMPENSATION
OF THE
UPPER NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Policies and Procedures for Conference Salary Support

Funding from the Commission on Equitable Compensation (Commission) supports and provides funding to churches that are unable to provide the minimum salaries as set forth by the Upper New York Conference for pastors under full-time appointment.

We support churches that have potential for growth in mission and ministry that do not have other resources available. These are churches that are part of the overall Conference plan for ministry and have the support of the Cabinet and the District Superintendent involved.

The application for funding is for either the period of January through June or July through December of a given year. If a pastoral change occurs after funding has been established, adjustments or termination of the grant may occur based on the situation.

Allocation of funds from the Commission is subject to semi-annual review. Funds are limited.

Criteria

- **Equitable Compensation funds are only available to churches whose pastor is under full-time appointment (either in a single-point or multiple-point charge).**
- **Support shall not exceed 25% of the gross salary.**
- **Support will not continue beyond three years with the expectation that the amount of the grant will be diminished each year.**
- **Grants are rarely given to churches where the compensation is set above the Conference minimum salary.**
- **Payment of Direct Bills and Ministry Shares for the last five years will be taken into consideration.**
- **Each church applying must be using the Vital Signs Dashboard Application weekly.**
- **Each church applying must submit their most current Balance Sheet**
- **Each church applying must submit a copy of the current church audit that was submitted to your District office.**

Steps in the Application Process

Complete the application form and forward it to your District Superintendent by the deadline. Please utilize AC STATS as a reference to complete the questions, as appropriate. Submissions to your District Superintendent must include:

- **This Application**
- **The Clergy compensation form(s)**
- **The August 2023 Balance Sheet**
- **The Church budget, including current income and expense statements**
- **A listing of all investments or funds whether endowments, bequests, memorials, designated or capital funds**
- **The AC STATS Church Summary 6-Part Graphic Report**; found at: <https://stats.gcfa.org/Login.aspx>
- **The last six months of data submitted to the Vital Signs Dashboard if started. If you are not using this currently, please begin.**
- **A copy of the current church audit that was submitted to your District office**

The District Superintendent will provide a recommendation, and the completed application form will be sent to the Benefits Office for consideration by the Commission on Equitable Compensation.

Once the application is completed, save the files on your computer as “church name_mmyyyy” and e-mail it as an attached “Word” file form with other required documents to your District Superintendent.

For example: File → Save As: ABCfirst_July2024.doc

The District Superintendent must provide a narrative with his/her recommendation. The District Superintendent will then forward the application to the Benefits Office. From there it is reviewed by the Bishop’s Cabinet and then sent on to the Commission on Equitable Compensation for consideration.

Funding is limited. In the event of multiple requests for salary assistance where the monetary requests outnumber the amount available, churches will be contacted accordingly about next steps.

Applications may be sent to the District Superintendent directly with a Cc: to the District Office:

AdirondackDistrict@unyumc.org	/	DebbieEarthrowl@unyumc.org
AlbanyDistrict@unyumc.org	/	DebbieEarthrowl@unyumc.org
BinghamtonDistrict@unyumc.org	/	bobkolvik-campbell@unyumc.org
OneontaDistrict@unyumc.org	/	bobkolvik-campbell@unyumc.org
NiagaraFrontierDistrict@unyumc.org	/	CarlosRosaLaguer@unyumc.org
CornerstoneDistrict@unyumc.org	/	CarlosRosaLaguer@unyumc.org
CrossroadsDistrict@unyumc.org	/	sherrirood@unyumc.org
FingerLakesDistrict@unyumc.org	/	sherrirood@unyumc.org
GeneseeValleyDistrict@unyumc.org	/	SuzanneBlock@unyumc.org
MountainViewDistrict@unyumc.org	/	SuzanneBlock@unyumc.org
NorthernFlowDistrict@unyumc.org	/	MikeWeeden@unyumc.org
MohawkDistrict@unyumc.org	/	MikeWeeden@unyumc.org

Navigating the form

To move through the selections, you can either TAB or use the mouse and click

The shaded area will expand as you type. To place an “X” in one of the boxes, double click in the , then click the circle next to the word “checked” for the box you wish to select.

**APPLICATION FOR CONFERENCE SALARY SUPPORT
FOR THE 6-MONTH PERIOD – JULY TO DECEMBER 2024**

Application Deadline: April 19, 2024

Church:

Pastor's Name:

District:

Criteria: (Please check only one)

Amount Requested:

Churches must indicate which of the criteria below describes the local church situation in regard to this salary support application.

A church applying for Equitable Compensation must have a pastor under full-time appointment (either single-point or multiple-point charge) AND be unable to provide the minimum compensation as set by the Upper New York Conference AND meet one of the following criteria in order to be considered for an Equitable Compensation Grant:

- A healthy church in transition to new vitality as evidenced by: a clear vision and commitment to a well-articulated strategic plan, a biblical understanding of the mission of the church, a capable and equipped leadership, high potential for expanding disciple-making ministries. Marks of such potential may include: numerical growth, area population growth, targeted evangelism and outreach.

- A church, suffering a temporary decline for identifiable and addressable reasons, that is seeking to return to a healthy position and requires short-term conference support to regain its footing.

Pastor's Conference Relationship (Please check one):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Pastoral Assistant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member from another UM Conf. | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Pastor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Lay Minister | <input type="checkbox"/> Provisional Deacon ('96 Discipline) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deacon from another denomination | <input type="checkbox"/> Provisional Elder ('96 Discipline) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deacon from another annual conference | <input type="checkbox"/> Probationary Member ('92 Discipline) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deacon in Full Connection | <input type="checkbox"/> Provisional Member from another United |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elder in Full Connection | Methodist annual conference |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elder/full member from other denomination | <input type="checkbox"/> Retired |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elder/full member from other UM Conf. | <input type="checkbox"/> Student local pastor |

Status (Please check one):

Single-point charge

Multiple-point charge (if part-time, please indicate _____ %)

Indicate each church name (listing your church first) and percentage of time at each church:

Church: _____ Percentage: _____ %

Church: _____ Percentage: _____ %

Church: _____ Percentage: _____ %

1. The Pastor’s number of full-time equivalent years of service:

2. What is the salary this church/charge is or will be paying the pastor?

Note: A copy of the UNY Clergy Compensation Report Form must be submitted with this application for all churches within a charge.

3. What has the average weekly worship attendance been for the current year and the past five years? (Refer to AC STATS Statistical Report line 7)

Year	Attendance	Year	Attendance
Current:		Year 3:	
Year 1:		Year 4:	
Year 2:		Year 5:	

4. In the last 12 months how many people have joined the church on “Profession of Faith”? (Refer to AC STATS Statistical Report line 2a and 2b for prior calendar year)

5. How many baptisms have been performed in the last 12 months? (Refer to AC STATS line 8, (8a-8c)

Child/Infant(8a):

Teen (13-17)(8b):

Adult (8c):

6. List the hands-on mission programs in which church members are involved and also give the number of people involved in those mission programs: (See AC STATS lines 20-23)

7. Are there ministries in your church funded outside of the Current Operating Budget? (If so, please explain briefly)
8. What has your church done to train laity for leadership? (Explain briefly)
9. What are the “fruits of your ministry”? Give specific examples of how your church's ministries are transforming lives, with qualitative and/or quantitative results.
10. What % of the following has been paid for the current year and the three prior years? (Refer to AC STATS Church Summary Graphic Report for Shared Ministry, Statistics Report lines 39+40 for Direct Bill information) (For the current year, use the % of year to date billed that has been paid)

Current Year – Shared Ministry:		Current Year – Direct Bill	
Year 1 – Shared Ministry:		Year 1 – Direct Bill	
Year 2 – Shared Ministry:		Year 2 – Direct Bill	
Year 3 – Shared Ministry:		Year 3 – Direct Bill:	

11. If these payments have not been made in a timely manner, why and what arrangements have been made for payment of the arrearages?
12. Stewardship Ministry: Briefly describe the stewardship campaign you have used or will be using for the upcoming budget. What is the goal of the campaign?
13. What was the net result of income for the current year? (Refer to AC STATS line 52)

Current Year:	\$	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase or <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease over last year
		<input type="checkbox"/> Increase or <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease over last year

14. What are your church’s investments and how are they designated? (Include any and all investments or funds whether endowments, bequests, memorials, designated or capital funds.)
15. If you are using invested funds, how are they being used?
16. Number of years salary support has been granted:
NOTE: Any churches requesting funding beyond one (1) year should expect to be asked to provide a plan for moving back to self-sufficiency.

17. Dates and Amount(s) of Salary Assistance including from Equitable Compensation or the Cabinet (Missional, Sustentation, Appointment grants): (Refer to AC STATS section 54 (a-c))

<u>Type of Assistance</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Amount Received</u>
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$

18. Please list **all other paid positions**, including position title, salary, and benefits (inclusive of employment taxes, health insurance, etc.): (Refer to AC STATS line 45 and 45b)

19. What additional information does the Commission on Equitable Compensation need to know about your particular mission and ministry that would help in the grant process?

20. What is your church’s unique situation that makes it necessary to apply for a salary grant? What specific plans are in place to address the issues that cause your need for a grant?

Attach a copy of the church’s current budget to this application and 6-part Church Summary Graph from AC STATS for past year <https://gcfa-umdata.brtsite.com/charts>.

The information in this application has been reviewed by the Pastor, S/PPRC Chair, Admin Board Chair, and Treasurer:

Pastor:		Date Reviewed:	
E-mail:		Telephone:	
S/PPRC Chair:		Date Reviewed:	
E-mail:		Telephone:	
Adm. Council Chair:		Date Reviewed:	
E-mail:		Telephone:	
Treasurer:		Date Reviewed:	
E-mail:		Telephone:	

Be sure to include in your submission the following:

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- **The Clergy compensation form(s)**
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