

**SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE AFFIRMATION GRANT
FOR
NEW PASTORS IN THE CONFERENCE WHO HAVE EDUCATIONAL DEBT**

The conference has long provided up front financial assistance for pastoral training and continuing education. But we recognize that newer pastors often come from pastoral training with educational debt. We also recognize that our conference is not in the center of some larger Mennonite Communities and families. Therefore in affirmation of your choosing to locate and serve in our conference, we are making a one time grant available to be applied to such an educational/training debt. The financial information supplied below is confidential.

The Ministerial Leadership Commission and Overseer need the following information to process the grant.

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Congregation where now serving _____

Educational Institution _____ Degree completed _____

Dates of study _____ and graduation date _____.

Approximate amount of educational debt accrued during your study not funded by scholarships, grants, church support, personal gifts and your own funds. \$ _____

Institution or bank, etc... to whom debt payments are made _____

Address _____

The one time grant check of up to \$1000 will be made out directly to the institution.

Grant requested by Conference Persons: (Commission chair takes the initiative to complete the form)

Ministerial Leadership Commission Chair Signature:

_____ Date _____

Congregational Overseer Signature _____ Date _____

The check will be presented to the pastor in a public setting by the Commission Chair or Overseer as a public affirmation from South Central Mennonite Conference.

Date presented _____ File copy in the conference office.

Procedure for Administration of the Affirmation Grant offered to those taking new pastoral positions within SCC

When a congregation begins the process of calling a person to a pastoral position, a South Central Conference Overseer is contacted to work with the congregation.

When a call is received and accepted for a position in a South Central Conference church, an interview will be conducted with the SCC Ministerial Commission. At the point when a call is accepted for a pastoral position, the attached form should be filled out to be processed.

A recommendation for financial assistance would then be processed by the SCC Ministerial Commission and submitted to the Administrative Committee for approval. On approval a check would be written directly to whatever institution holds the loan.

The amount of the financial assistance will be considered based on need, but will not exceed \$1000.