

Young Adult and Campus Ministry Grant Discernment and Planning

Step 1: Explore and Discern

Developing a grant application is best done in a community where colleagues and supporters can discern and explore where God is calling your ministry to grow, change, or do something new. If you are a solo minister, we invite you to think about who you should gather together to help you in this process. Many turn to their board or vestry, advisors, student ministers, and/or colleagues from your school or diocese to begin praying and exploring together.

Reflect

Before your first meeting with the whole group, take some time to pray about this ministry and answer these questions.

- What does ministry with young adults mean to you?
- How does our community form us?
- What are the gifts that may already be present in your community?

Gather, Discern, Explore

Gather your group together to help you discern and explore.

Use one of the following ways to reflect on the ministry and where you feel God is calling you.

- **Theological Reflection**
Take some time to read scripture and reflect on how God's word is informing your ministry and calling. Where do you see your ministry reflected in the passage? What do you hear God saying? How might this passage inform your ministry?
- **Do Gifts Discernment**
Using some of the tools from *Called to Transformation: An Asset-Based Approach to Engaging Church and Community*, spend some time naming and evaluating what gifts you have in individuals, in your ministry, and in your community.
<http://calledtotransformation.org/gifts-discernment/gifts-discernment-resources/>
- **Map your Assets**
Map all the possible assets you have as individuals, as a group, and as a community.
<http://calledtotransformation.org/asset-mapping/>
- **Read**
Read books and articles that speak to the kind of work you are feeling called to do. You can look here to find a list of books and resources about working with young adults.
<http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/yacm/resourceslinks/books-and-articles/>
- **SCOR Analysis**
Take some time as a group to list the Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities, and Risks in what you are feeling called to do.
- **Wonder Together**
Who will you serve and how?
What can you do now with what you have?
What do you need a grant to do?
Do you need it now?
What might happen to this call if you do not get the funding requested?

Discover and Plan

After some reading, discerning, thinking, and wondering, it is time to wonder where God is calling you. Where is God calling you to minister? Using this as a guide, take some time to discover your dream or vision, create some action steps, and make a plan.

<http://calledtotransformation.org/taking-action/>

Step 2: Feedback and Buy-in from your Bishop and Advisors

Once you have a plan, you will need to get some feedback. If you have only included part of your board or vestry, present it to everyone. Get the feedback of young adults, your colleagues and those closest to your ministry.

Make sure you get the feedback and buy-in from your Bishop since she or he will need to sign off on the final proposal.

Step 3: Plan and Write

After you have gotten some feedback, it is time to plan and write your grant application. Please make sure you look back at the guidelines, preferences and criteria as you are writing. Give yourself time to write and make sure your group of supporters is there to back you up and give you feedback before you send it in.

Step 4: Submit

Finally, submit your application and budget by February 2, 2018 by 10pm Eastern time.

If you have further questions, please contact The Rev. Shannon Kelly, Officer for Young Adult and Campus Ministry at skelly@episcopalchurch.org or Valerie Harris, Formation Associate at vharris@episcopalchurch.org.