



United Thank Offering 2022 Grant Focus and Criteria

*UTO was founded to support innovative mission and ministry
that the Church budget has not yet expanded to fund.*



The 2022 United Thank Offering Grant session will focus on the following:

Care of Creation:

Turning love into action by caring for God's creation to protect the most vulnerable
–who will bear the largest burden of pollution and climate change through

- justice
- advocacy
- environmental reparations
- or the development of formational materials.

Funding Range:

The UTO Board will accept applications from \$1,000 to \$55,000. This range was determined using the average of the amounts awarded from 2014 to 2020. Please note: we ask you to request only what you need for your project. UTO is very appreciative of those applicants that exhibit financial restraint so that we can fund as many projects as possible. In circumstances of extreme need, applicants may request up to \$100,000; however, you must clearly justify why the project requires that level of support from UTO and show an adequate level of in-kind support.

The United Thank Offering will accept:

- grant applications for NEW ministries' start-up costs or start-up costs for NEW projects/programs within an existing ministry program added for a purpose other than simply increasing the number of current program participants;
- grant applications for seed money for start-up positions, either full or part-time for a new ministry (*see above*);
- **one** grant application per diocese within The Episcopal Church;
- **one** additional application from any diocese of The Episcopal Church that receives funding from the General Convention Budget (*for a full list please see the Application Process Form*);
- **two applications** from each Province of the Anglican Communion; however, they must be from two different dioceses within the Province.
- **NOTE:** Only Episcopal institutions (parishes, dioceses, provinces, schools, seminaries, monastic communities, Episcopal organizations and other Episcopal affiliated entities) are eligible to receive these funds. Partnerships with non-Episcopal entities are welcome and encouraged, but an Episcopal entity must serve as the recipient of the funds, project leader, active manager, owner of any materials/equipment/land purchased, supervisor of staff paid with UTO funds, and reporting agent.

A United Thank Offering grant application must:

- spend grant money and return the final report of the funds within one year of receipt of the grant or apply three months prior to the deadline for an extension of up to an additional year;
- share final virtual formation resources with the whole church through UTO;
- show how computer equipment, if requested in the budget, will be protected, maintained, and supported going forward (please note: UTO cannot fund service contracts for computers);
- spell out construction costs in detail (see the sample construction budget for help);
- show financial or in-kind support.

The United Thank Offering will NOT fund:

- capital campaigns or debt reductions;
- deferred maintenance (repairs or upgrades to the physical plant or facility must be tied to the specific ministry or project of the current application);
- debts obligated or incurred before the date of the grant award;
- employment benefits, fees, taxes, or social security costs;
- maintenance of a website or printing of marketing materials however, the initial development/creation/translation of materials, videos, or a website **can** be funded;
- project site/programs for two consecutive years (for example, you cannot apply for two different projects in the same building two years in a row);
- operational budgets (meaning the proposed budget and program is the same as the year before, which includes portions of salaries for individuals who are already paid fulltime salaries);
- honoraria or any payment of any kind to an individual without an invoice;
- purchase of consumable items (e.g., food, medicine, paper goods, toiletries, fuel of any kind, school supplies, anything that is given to those attending a program, travel, mileage, overnight accommodations, gift cards, etc.);
- fees of architects or engineers, permits or insurance of any kind, shipping costs, background checks, or fingerprinting;
- contingency funds or overhead costs including utilities;
- rent or leasing of any kind;
- scholarships, tuition, camp fees, or attendance incentives;
- previously funded requests;
- incomplete grant applications;
- grant applications from an Episcopal or Anglican diocese that has a current delinquent/outstanding UTO grant report;
- applications from dioceses that have not paid their full assessment or received a waiver from Executive Council, in accordance with Canon I.4.6 (f-g);
- grant applications that have 51% or more of the total requested from UTO out of criteria (*these items may appear on the budget, but it must be indicated who is funding them; see sample budget for more information*);
- emergency response requests.

Additionally:

- for all garden or agricultural project applications:
 - UTO will fund: soil, manure, trees, bushes, irrigation systems
 - UTO will NOT fund: fertilizer, plants, flowers, seeds
- any garden or agricultural project within The Episcopal Church must be enrolled in the Good News Garden Program: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/good-news-gardens/>
- UTO will only fund **one-half** of the actual purchase of a vehicle requested in the United States (except in dioceses which receive funding from the General Convention budget) and the budget must show where the other half of the funding will come from.
- UTO requires a proposed bill of sale with a breakdown of costs-which must accompany **all** applications requesting computer equipment (and justification for the choice given the cost), a vehicle (meaning anything with wheels that can be driven), land or the purchase of an existing building (both in the United States and in other countries).
- UTO will fund a vehicle for one year only—there will be **NO** extensions allowed, regardless of location.

Please join the United Thank Offering Board for one of the webinars listed on the helpful hints page or email hmelton@episcopalchurch.org with questions!