

Healthy Pastors Healthy Congregation Initiative

To help PCUSA pastors address the growing financial challenges to ministry, the Board of Pensions has developed Healthy Pastors, Healthy Congregations. This initiative, designed to help ministers and congregations work together for financial stability, provides education and financial resources. This program combines pastor and congregational leader education with grants up to \$10,000 to qualifying pastors.

Program Components

Congregational leader education: Session and Personnel Committee members and other congregational leaders, along with their pastor commit to a two hours session on A Theology of Benefits Bible Study/Financial Realities of Pastors. **(Note: This component will be led by Clayton Cobb, your regional Church Consultant, on June 15th at a site to be determined.)**

Pastor education: Pastors commit to 2.5 hours of online training on Personal finance lessons and Terms of Call lessons. After this grounding the pastor will receive financial counseling through with Ernst & Young at no cost.

Financial grants to pastors: a one-time grant of up to \$10,000 is available to eligible pastors after the pastor and congregational leaders have completed their educational sessions and the pastor has received financial counseling. The grant may be used to reduce or eliminate pastor's educational, credit card, or other debt, or to boost personal savings in the Retirement Savings Plan, a 403b plan.

Pastor Eligibility

To qualify, the pastor must

- Be enrolled in Pastor's Participation in the Benefits Plan
- Have a total household adjusted gross income of less than \$118,200 (twice the median salary for congregational ministers)
- Have a total net worth of less than \$250,000 (excluding the value of home and auto)

To get started

To learn more or take the next step call 215-587-7219, or email hphc@pensions.org.

Also, see Healthy Pastors, Healthy Congregations at [pensions.org](http://www.pensions.org), <http://www.pensions.org/your-path-to-wholeness/healthy-pastors-healthy-congregations>

Or contact Clayton Cobb, regional Church Consultant at 267-844-2411, or ccobb@pensions.org

Minister Education Debt Assistance

Qualifying ministers can receive a grant of \$5,000 per year, for up to five years, to repay education debt (undergraduate and graduate debt). Participants must engage in financial coaching with a Board of Pensions partner that specializes in education debt, and commit to participate financially with a prorated amount.

Eligibility

- be enrolled in Pastor's Participation in the Benefits Plan
- have completed a CREDO conference or the Health Pastors Healthy Congregations program
- have an effective salary below \$80,000 and a total household adjusted gross income of less than \$118,200 (twice the median salary for congregations)
- repay your debt by a specified monthly amount based on your effective salary and the amount of the debt

For more information go to: <http://www.pensions.org/your-path-to-wholeness/give-and-receive/assistance-program/minister-educational-debt-assistance-grants>