

ELCA Fund for Leaders

for this church and for our future

Instructions for Synod or Congregation scholarship nominees – 2027

Application is open May 15 - June 5

For prospective and current ELCA seminary students, and synod candidacy committees

Use this guideline to review eligibility, understand the selection process, and track key scholarship-cycle dates.

Congratulations! You have been nominated to receive an ELCA Synod or Congregation seminary scholarship.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Students must be:

- Enrolled at an ELCA seminary
- Registered for classes, internship or CPE
- Enrolled in MDiv (deacon or pastor) or MA (deacon) degree program – OR – Enrolled in TEEM, TEIL certificate programs
- Pursuing rostered ministry in the ELCA
- (word and service or word and sacrament)
- Considered by the synod to be in good standing and moving forward in the ELCA Candidacy Process

Examples of eligible students:

- TEEM, TEIL candidates
- Students receiving any other type of Fund for Leaders scholarship
- MDiv graduates from any seminary fulfilling Lutheran learning and formation candidacy requirements at an ELCA seminary (aka “Lutheran year”).
- TEEM graduates returning to seminary and entering an MDiv or MA degree program

AWARD INFORMATION

- Synod and Congregation scholarships are awarded for one year.
- Fund for Leaders sends payment to your ELCA seminary in your name, half in fall, the remainder in spring.
- All awards are meant to be **additive** to other assistance a student may already be receiving and can be used for non-tuition expenses associated with their studies. **Note:** *scholarship funds used to cover costs beyond tuition, books, and fees (e.g., room and board, insurance, etc.) will count as taxable income to students.*

2026 TIMELINE Please complete the application between May 15 and June 5

May 15-June 5	July – first week	Mid-Sep 2027	Mid-Jan 2028
Students register and apply online in ELCA GrantMaker https://elca.fluxx.io	Students accept Grant Agreement online in ELCA GrantMaker	FFL sends payments to ELCA seminaries: Fall 1/2 of scholarship	FFL sent payments to ELCA seminaries: Spring 1/2 of scholarship

NOTIFY YOUR SYNOD IF...

- You will graduate before September 2026 (not eligible) or in December 2026 (fall payment only)
- You will not be registered at an ELCA seminary for fall and/or spring (not eligible)

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Instructions for students applying through ELCA GrantMaker: [Our Scholarships - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America \(elca.org\)](#) Scroll to: Interested in applying? Learn more [here](#).
- Any questions? Please contact us, or have students contact us, at fundforleaders@elca.org or 773-380-2496

APPLY FOR YOUR SCHOLARSHIP - May 15 - June 5, 2027

<https://elca.fluxx.io/>

1. Register in ELCA GrantMaker (EGM) to create your account – starting May 15



To view the application in another language, use the Google translate feature in the menu on the left at the bottom.

- Go to <https://elca.fluxx.io/>. Click on “Create Account Now”
- Select Domestically for receiving FFL funds
- Which ELCA grant class – select Fund for Leaders
- For “what grant are you registering for”, select “Synod or Congregation Scholarship.”
This option will only appear May 15-June 5.
- For “Are you applying as an individual or on behalf of an organization?”, select “Individual”
- Enter the required registration information. Be sure to enter an email that you use regularly.
- Click on “SUBMIT REQUEST”

When your registration is approved (generally within two days), you should receive an email from ELCA GrantMaker with the subject “New User Information.” Set your password by clicking on the URL link in that email and following the instructions. You will receive a password reset email with a unique link to finalize your password.

2. Complete the application by June 5.

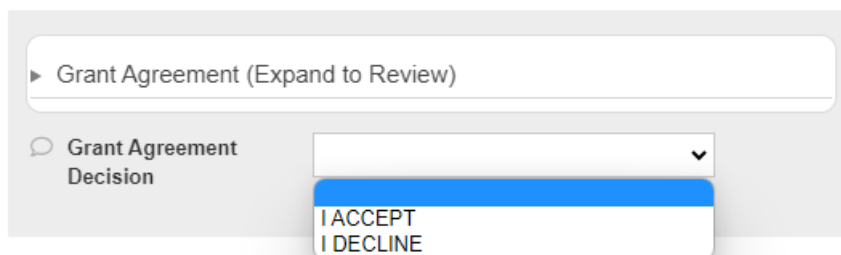
After you set your password, you can log in using your username (email) and password. Read the instructions.

- In the menu on the left, click on “Applications.”
- “ELCA Scholarships: ELCA Fund for Leaders” and choose **Synod and Congregation Scholarship**.
- There will be a drop-down menu – select the name of the specific synod or congregation scholarship for which you are nominated.
- When you complete the application, ***remember to save and submit!***

3. Accept the grant agreement in July – This is required in order to send your scholarship payment.

In July you will receive an email from ELCA GrantMaker asking you to return online to your account to accept the grant agreement.

- Please look under ‘Requests’ and select ‘Pending Grant Agreements’, then select your application(s)
Click on **EDIT** in the upper right corner to see the menu below.

A screenshot of a web interface showing a 'Grant Agreement (Expand to Review)' section. Below it is a 'Grant Agreement Decision' dropdown menu. The dropdown is open, showing two options: 'I ACCEPT' (highlighted in blue) and 'I DECLINE'.

Select ‘I ACCEPT’ then ‘SAVE’. **Pause a minute** and then ‘SUBMIT’

Please contact FundforLeaders@elca.org or 773-380-2936 with any questions. We are happy to help!