

Salford Foundation Fund Guidelines

History/Background

The Salford Foundation Fund was created in 1985 when the Church was informed that it would receive a large sum of money from the estate of one of its members. Subsequent contributions have come from donations, other estates, and interest earnings on the account. There were no original restrictions on use of these funds from the donors. The Foundation Fund exists to receive unrestricted estate gifts and other specifically designated donations to the church.

In 2018, the Salford congregation affirmed a recommendation by the church board to focus this Fund to provide support for Anabaptist education, service toward justice and peace, and new mission initiatives.

Mission/Focus

The mission of the Salford Foundation Fund is to provide financial resources for Anabaptist education, mission initiatives, and service toward justice and peace.

Opportunities to Grow through Anabaptist education

Undergraduate – at Mennonite institutions

Seminary – at Mennonite institutions

Graduate – studies with an Anabaptist focus

Opportunities to Connect through mission initiatives

Local and area initiatives that are key to Salford's outreach to the community

To support people from under-resourced or under-privileged communities

Opportunities to Serve through service focused on justice and peace

Service through an MCUSA service agency, nationally or internationally

Term of service: 1-3 years

Guidelines

The following guidelines will be used for distributions from the Salford Foundation Fund:

Mennonite Education:

Salford commits to funding \$2,000 per year (up to four years/eight semesters) for any undergraduate student studying in one of the five Mennonite Church USA (MCUSA) colleges and universities. Students studying at an MCUSA seminary are also eligible for this annual scholarship. Students in graduate school studying peace/conflict resolution or other Anabaptist-related fields of study may also apply for the annual funding. The Salford church board would determine eligibility for seminary and graduate school funding. Members of Salford, or children of members active in the life of the congregation, are eligible for the scholarship. A notice of scholarship availability will go out to the congregation in January of each year. The funds will be processed through the schools' matching grant programs, resulting in additional matching funds being made available from the schools. Salford will also make available one \$2,000 scholarship per year to one Franconia Mennonite Conference (FMC) congregation member who

comes from a minority ethnic group studying at one of the five MCUSA-related colleges and universities. FMC will be consulted for recommendations of students to consider.

The Salford church budget will also continue to support undergraduate students from Salford with the previously established \$1,000 per year scholarship. The Foundation Fund scholarship will be in addition to this budget funding. As with this Fund, the budget support is available for students attending one of the MCUSA-related colleges or universities.

Mission Initiatives:

Each calendar year, Salford will make funds available for up to two projects (up to \$2,500 each) for mission-related outreach in the local community or southeast PA region. The intention is for these grants to be seed money for new initiatives rather than operating funds for established programs. The Salford church board will review the applications and grant these awards, with input from the Leadership Staff Team and Finance Ministry Team. There will not be a specific application period for these grants. Each application would be considered as it is received on its own merits, and each application will be granted, held or denied based on its connections to Salford's mission in the local community and the degree of involvement of Salford members.

Service toward Justice and Peace:

Salford commits to funding \$3,000 per year for any person committed to serving a year or more in peace service with an MCUSA service agency (service opportunities of less than one year with funding needs should be funded through existing church budget funds and/or the youth budget). Persons planning for service will contact the church office with their intention. Requests for funding will be reviewed by the Salford church board and Leadership Team for eligibility and approval. The person planning for service will submit information on the program they will be participating in, the amount of funds needed by the agency to participate and a description of other finances that may be helpful during service (e.g., student loan payments, travel to and from assignment, small living stipend, etc.). Salford will also make available \$3,000 per year to help fund one Franconia Mennonite Conference (FMC) congregation member who comes from a minority ethnic group to participate in service with an MCUSA service-related agency. This grant would be coordinated with FMC.

The Salford church budget contains funds for members in missions. These funds will be used first to support members in mission, with any remaining eligible funding needs coming from the Foundation Fund. If the budget funds are not used in a specific year, remaining budget funds for members in mission will be transferred to the Foundation Fund, assuming all other budget expenses are met with offerings and income in a given year.

Applications:

Application requests for grants may be submitted at any time throughout the year. In the case of mission initiatives, once two projects have been awarded applications for other projects will be closed until the next year. Applications will be reviewed for eligibility by a church board sub-

committee in conjunction with church staff. Recommendations for awards will be made to the church board, who will have responsibility for final approval.

Other than mission initiatives, there is no limit on the amount of funds that may be granted each year through this Fund. A development team will work to publicize and promote the Fund to give it visibility and encourage giving to the Fund through annual giving and estate gifts. The Finance Ministry Team in conjunction with the church administrator will oversee investments of the Fund. In the event funding requests exceed the Fund balance in any year, the Fund may be spent down and terminated.

The church board encourages annual communication with the congregation (at a minimum) to share and celebrate stories of ways in which the Fund is meeting its mission and encourage further giving.

Updated by the church board and approved by the congregation November 2018
Effective January 2019