

The Ecclesiastical Ministry Bursary Awards have helped hundreds of ministers to finance their extended study leave. In fact since being established in 1987, our bursaries have provided over £1.4m to help over 1,500 members of the clergy to finance a wide range of extended leave projects and plans supporting their ministerial development.

We do not like to be prescriptive and have awarded monies to applicants where sabbaticals will refresh their soul that they don't usually have time for. Examples of the types of sabbaticals awarded are: walking The Camino de Santiago, St Cuthbert's Way, etc; writing; stone carving; touch typing; retreats; pilgrimages; learning languages, etc.

To find out more and download an application form visit www.ecclesiastical.com/mba

Entry Criteria

Entries for an award must fulfil the following criteria, and we are particularly keen to see more sabbaticals which aim to support the drive for net zero carbon:

- Awards are open to individual clergy in the Anglican Church in England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Europe
- All clergy must have been in ordained ministry for at least 10 years and not taken a sabbatical in the previous 7 years of applying
- Applications are also open to Archdeacons, Bishops, Deans and Assistants¹
- Awards are provided for extended study leave only (fees for a course during the extended study leave may be considered)
- Entries must be made using the forms provided. It is the applicants responsibility to ensure the application and endorsement forms are submitted
- We are particularly keen to see more sabbaticals which aim to support the drive for net zero carbon.

We do not support:

- Long-term courses such as PhD or university fees
- An extended holiday/family holiday
- Doing the same job in a different location
- Solely used for academic study.

Judging Criteria

Each application which meets the entry criteria is awarded marks out of 100 based on the quality of the trip or research to be undertaken and its subsequent contribution to the church at large. It also considers whether the sabbatical provides elements of soulful rest and refreshment for the applicant that is purposeful and balanced.

¹ Assistants are classified as Assistant Curates, Deacons and Licensed Lay Workers including Church Army Evangelists engaged in the parochial ministry.
Source: GS Misc 1243 published by the Archbishops' Council 2019.

The amount of the individual awards will be judged by the Church Operations Director and two members of senior clergy, on the following criteria and scored as follows:

- Value to the individual applicant (50 marks)
- Benefit to the wider church (20 marks)
- Financial support already committed from other sources (10 marks)
- The strength of the endorsement from a Bishop or Archdeacon supporting your plans (20 marks).

Size of Awards

All applications are considered by Ecclesiastical and assessed in light of Ecclesiastical's budget for Awards for that financial year, which is set by Ecclesiastical in its absolute discretion. We ask all applicants to consider their own resources and only apply if there is genuine need, so that those who most need the support receive it.

The number of applications vary and where Ecclesiastical receives a higher volume of eligible applications, Award amounts may be lowered to allow more eligible applicants to receive some financial help. As a general indication, most awards granted by Ecclesiastical are between £200 to £1,500. Ecclesiastical's decision whether to offer an Award is made at its absolute discretion.

If your application is successful you will be informed by email. Acceptance of the Award is subject to Ecclesiastical's Ministry Bursary Awards Terms and Conditions.