

Vision 2020 Mission Grants



Purpose of the grant scheme

The United Reformed Church is a multicultural church engaging in mission in the world. Through the Mission Grants Programme we aim to give some financial support to mission projects.

The intention of this scheme is to ensure that all mission grants help the URC to achieve the 10 statements of our mission purpose, agreed as part of the denomination's vision2020 strategy, to simplify administration and to strengthen monitoring and accountability to ensure best use of URC resources.

Who can apply?

There are two categories of Mission Grants:

1. Special project grants
 - a) These can be applied for by any local United Reformed Church.
 - b) A grant may be used for a one-off mission project, for example starting a Church Holiday Club, helping fund a local week of mission etc.
 - c) A maximum of £1,000 may be applied for.
2. Three year developmental grants for mission projects/organisations
 - a) These can be applied for by any local United Reformed Church, Synod or wider mission organisation.
 - b) A grant may be used for a longer term project or programme.
 - c) A maximum of £6,000 over three years (i.e. £2,000 per year) may be applied for.

Criteria and process

Applicants are required to fill in the following application form in as much detail as possible. Applications must meet the following criteria:

- a) Address one or more of the ten vision2020 statements. The statements can be found at the end of the application form.
- b) Include a process of evaluation, monitoring and sharing of learning with wider church.
- c) Demonstrate an element of collaboration or partnership.
- d) Demonstrate the sustainability of the project.
- e) Indicate what other sources of funding or voluntary/in-kind support are available for the project.

Please note:

- a local church, Synod or mission organisation may only apply for a grant once per year.
- If the same church, Synod or organisation applies again in a following year, it must be for a different project.
- The project applied for must take place after the closing date for application.
- Any organisation or church or project currently receiving URC Legacy funding will not be eligible for a vision2020 grant.

Closing dates for applications

- Special Project Grants: The closing dates for applications for special project grants are **31 March, 30 June, 30 September, and 31 December**.

- Three Year Development Grants: The closing dates for the three year development grants are **30 June** and **31 December**.

Processing of Applications:

- Applications will be taken to a Grants Panel which will make decisions on behalf of the Mission Committee.
- Applications received will be processed in the following month and applicants informed of decision by the end of the following month.
 - (i.e applications submitted for 31 March deadline will be processed by 30 April)
- Applications will be assessed based on the information given by the applicants.
- If there are changes to your application or additional information after you have submitted your application, please inform us as soon as possible, so that this can be taken into account.

Applicants will be informed in writing of decisions made.

Expectations

The Mission Committee of the United Reformed Church will expect to receive a written evaluation report of the mission project and how the funding was used.

Special project grants: an initial report must be received 1 month after the grant is given and a final evaluation report must be received no later than 6 months after the grant is given.

Developmental grants: a report must be received at the end of each year (funding will not be released until this is received) and a final evaluation report must be received no later than 6 months after the project has ended.

Your report should provide a general narrative outlining:

1. How you have used the fund? Please include the financial breakdown of how the grant was spent.
2. What has the project achieved?
3. Have any you experienced any difficulties? If so, please give details.
4. What has been the impact of the grant?
5. Provide any other information you may feel is relevant.

Please feel free to send us images of your project to illustrate your progress and/or achievements. Please let us know if the URC can use these images in publications and on our website to promote Vision 2020 Mission Grants. Images would need the consent of all those pictured.

Please return completed forms to:

**Administrator for Global and Intercultural Ministries
The United Reformed Church
86 Tavistock Place
London
WC1H 9RT**

global.intercultural@urc.org.uk

We strongly encourage all applicants to complete the form electronically and send it to the world church email address to reduce the amount of paper used.

If you have any further questions please contact the **Administrator for Global and Intercultural Ministries** at the above address or call 020 7916 2020

Vision 2020 Mission Grants Programme

Application Form

Section A

Name of Church Denomination	
Name of main contact person	
Position held in the Church/Denomination	
Address	
Telephone number	
E-mail	
Date of application	
Signature of applicant	

Name and short outline of project:

Section B

Grant applied for:	Special project grants <input type="checkbox"/>	Developmental 3 year grant <input type="checkbox"/>
Amount applied for:		/per year

Please give details of the nature, purpose and budget of project

I.

II. How will the project be monitored and evaluated and how will any learning be shared with wider church or community?

III. Please tell us which other churches or organisations do you propose to enter into collaboration or partnership for this project?

IV. How do you intend to sustain this mission project after vision2020 funding has ended?

V. What other sources of funding or voluntary/in-kind support have been applied for or granted?

VI. Which vision2020 statement(s) does your project address? Please tick one or more:

- Spirituality and Prayer
- Identity
- Christian Ecumenical Partnerships
- Community Partnerships
- Hospitality and Diversity
- Evangelism
- Church Growth
- Global Partnerships
- Justice and Peace
- The Integrity of Creation

VII. Has your Synod been made aware of your application? Please tick:

- Yes
- No

Office Use Only:

Date application was received:
Confirmation sent:
Additional information received:
Further telephone/email contact with applicant:



Ten statements of our mission purpose

Statement 1: Spirituality and prayer

We will grow in our practice of prayer and spirituality, nurturing strength for our witness to Jesus Christ, and developing our discernment of where God is and what God is calling us to do by reading and studying the Bible and through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Statement 2: Identity

The URC will be a Church where every local congregation will be able to say who they are, what they do and why they do it.

Statement 3: Christian Ecumenical Partnerships

We will be more confident in our identity, valuing the treasures of our tradition, discerning when to seek ecumenical partnerships, and when and how to seek the further unity of the Church.

Statement 4: Community partnerships

We will be a Church that is more active in the life of local neighbourhoods.

Statement 5: Hospitality and diversity

We will be a Church committed to becoming even more welcoming and hospitable, and embracing all people equally.

Statement 6: Evangelism

We will be more confident to engage in evangelism, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God with friends, families and strangers, through story and action.

Statement 7: Church growth

We will be a growing Church with an increasing membership.

Statement 8: Global partnerships

We will be a Church that is an active partner in God's global mission with other Churches around the world.

Statement 9: Justice and peace

We will be a Church committed to peacemaking and reconciliation that keeps faith with the poor and challenges injustice.

Statement 10: The integrity of creation

We will be a Church that has taken significant steps to safeguard the integrity of creation, to sustain and renew the life of the earth.