

Mission & Discipleship Committee Grant Guidelines: Learning & Development



The Synod offers five categories of grant:

1. Church Property
2. Manse Property
3. Mission
4. Learning & Development
5. Youth & Children's Work

Each category has its own guidelines and application forms, which can be downloaded from <http://urc-northernsynod.org/grants/> or obtained from Synod Office. These guidelines relate only to grants for Learning & Development. Please note that projects which are largely concerned with the church's mission should come under mission grants.

Learning & Development Grants

Synod makes available grants to support education and learning both for lay and ordained, as detailed below.

Ministerial Education & Learning Grants

Educating for Ministry Stage 2 and 3 (EM2/EM3) grants, should be claimed using form G1.

For sabbaticals, form G2 should be used. These forms and guidelines may be downloaded from the Synod website: <http://urc-northernsynod.org/grants/>.

Students

Grants are available for books for ministerial and church-related community work students, up to **£300** each year. Application is by letter (enclosing copies of receipts) to the Synod Office for authorisation by the Learning & Development Officer.

Active Retired Ministers

The Synod has benefited from the work of active retired ministers and CRCWs. Where that person is not in a formally designated post, a Synod grant of up to **£300** a year is available for funding education and learning. The criteria are the same as those criteria that are used for provision of Education for Ministry Stage 3 (EM3) grants. Application is by letter (enclosing copies of receipts) to the Synod Office for authorisation by the Learning & Development Officer.

Lay Learning & Development Grants

The Synod has a small budget available to individuals or groups of lay people. This scheme is not available to Ministers of Word and Sacraments or Church Related Community Workers, unless they are part of a group. The maximum grant payable each year is **£300** per individual or **£1,000** per group, whichever is the

lesser. The funding can be used for individual courses, or retreats, or for group events. There are separate application forms for individual and group grants which can be downloaded from the Synod website:

<http://urc-northernsynod.org/grants/>.

Stepwise

Synod continues to offer payment for Stepwise Course fees for students from the Synod. Additional courses will not normally be subsidised (more information is available from the Synod's Learning & Development Officer). These are paid direct on behalf of all students from churches in the Northern Synod, and there is no need to apply.

Lay Preachers

Grants of up to **£300** are available to accredited lay preachers from the United Reformed Church for attendance at national or Synod training events and the purchase of resources (such as Roots). A form is obtainable from the Lay Preaching Advocate.