

It's for YOU

"When my husband's job was downsized, the MEF grant helped me to pay off one of my student loans, easing some of the financial pressure. The team member assigned to work with me was very helpful and understanding. The kindness and understanding shown to me by the committee members is deeply appreciated."

"I was encouraged to apply ... when I shared that we were struggling with significant medical debt. My congregation was quick to find the \$1000 matching donation that resulted in receiving a \$2000 grant from Lilly. The whole process felt very supportive from the synod, my congregation and from Lilly."

"Even though I am able to pay student loans in a timely manner, the Lilly Grant provided a portion to be paid back 3 years sooner, alleviating interest. But mostly, the Lilly Grant kept me in school and moving toward finishing my thesis, which I had full intentions of not finishing."

"Medical costs had added to the cost of a divorce and I found myself under water. I had forgone needed tests to cut down on co-insurance, having met my deductible. The modest grant helped me start fresh and begin putting away a bit of money each month. I am grateful for the grace in this opportunity and healing well. Thank you 3E. You've made a difference in my physical and financial health."

For more info on MEF:

Contact Julie Nelson

Associate Program Director

2julienelson@gmail.com

970-454-3426 (H)

970-324-5100 (M)

Ministerial Excellence Fund

Generosity in partnership with Lilly Endowment Inc.
and the Rocky Mountain Synod





This is for YOU! Educate, Equip, Enact
3E is a grant all rostered ministers and
candidates can participate in.



Lilly 3E Grant Initiative 2020-2022

Grant Types	Grant Amounts	Grant Incentive	Maximum Possible	How often can I apply?
Education Debt Relief (seminary & undergraduate)	10% of student loan balance	N/A	\$10,000	One-time
Medical Debt Relief	Up to \$2,000	Raise up to \$1K, match up to \$1K	\$4,000	Annually
Emergency Relief	Up to \$1,000	N/A	\$1,000	Annually

Additional information:

Education Debt Relief

- Rostered ministers and candidates in final categories (Approved and/or Approved & Assigned) are eligible
- Best suited for those on a standard repayment plan

Medical Debt Relief

- A contribution to the 3E program raised by either the congregation/ministry or a source other than the grant applicant can be considered for matching funds

Emergency Relief

- All possible avenues of alternative relief should be investigated and applied for, including use of personal savings and available credit.

To inquire:

[https://www.rmselfca.org/
lilly-MEF-initial-inquiry](https://www.rmselfca.org/lilly-MEF-initial-inquiry)

The Ministerial Excellence Fund is a sign of the partnership we share in ministry in the Rocky Mountain Synod. Funds have been contributed by generous congregations and individuals who understand that we share a common purpose, and that lifting the welfare of one lifts the welfare of all. Ministerial Excellence Fund grants help rostered ministers and candidates develop stronger financial literacy & management skills and provide direct aid to help reduce or eliminate crippling debt. This fund focuses on education debt relief, medical debt relief, and aids in dire circumstances. Leaders relieved of financial hardship increase their capacity and joy for healthy ministry. To learn more, go to <https://www.rmselfca.org/Lilly-MEF-Apply>.