

Thirteenth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church
BELIEVE, INCORPORATED
2023 Grant Application

Please read the following information before completing the grant application.

What is Believe, Incorporated?

BELIEVE, INCORPORATED (also hereto referred as “Believe, Inc.” or simply “Believe”) is a non-profit organization that represents the secular educational, economic, community development and outreach efforts. BELIEVE, INCORPORATED seeks to identify new resources and to provide small grants to churches, organizations, and individual clergy who are eligible to apply.

How to find the Grant Application?

1) Go to our website: www.believeinc.org; 2) Click on Download Grant Application on the menu bar; 3) You must have a PDF Viewer installed on your computer (such as the “Adobe Reader” available free at <http://www.adobe.com/reader>) to view/print the application.

Who can apply for Believe Grants? Believe, Inc. funds two different areas:

1. Proposals from AME CHURCHES or ORGANIZATIONS in the 13th Episcopal District of the AME Church that demonstrate a plan or project with specific goals and a commitment to outreach, church growth, and community development.
2. Proposals from INDIVIDUALS, who are active members of a local church in the 13th Episcopal District of the AME Church, who can demonstrate an ongoing effort to build new leadership through theological training.
3. Have you applied or been awarded a grant from the 13th Episcopal District this fiscal year?
If, so please attach a brief summary with application.

What are the two Believe, Inc. Program Categories?

Priorities for Churches or Organizations within the church

- Assisting small and rural churches
- Utilizing technology to improve communication and visibility of the Thirteenth Episcopal District
- Assisting the work of Sons of Allen.
- Start-up funds for planting new congregations

Priorities for Individuals

- Creating shared learning opportunities for clergy and lay
- Developing young adult ministries
- Start-up funds for new ministries
- Leadership training and development
- Scholarships—Theological Training

What is the Application Deadline? Monday, May 1, 2023 by mail, fax, or hand delivered (*postal mail, must be postmarked no later than deadline date*), with all applicable signatures (Pastor’s & Presiding Elder’s).

What is the Minimum Grant Award? \$1,000.00

Where should grant applications be submitted? 2023 Believe, Inc. Grant Application Review Committee, 13th Episcopal District Office, Suite 210, 900 13th Ave South, Nashville, TN 37212

BELIEVE, INCORPORATED
2023 GRANT APPLICATION

Please check one:

Church/Organization

Individual Theological Training

Applicant Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____

Church: _____ District: _____ Conference: _____

Total Request: _____ Total Church Budget: _____

Brief (200) Word Summary of Request:

Contact person: _____ Phone: _____

Pastor's Name: _____ Signature: _____

Presiding Elder's Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date of Submission: _____

Office Use Only: Do not write in this section

Person Completing this section: _____

Date Reviewed: _____ Time Received: _____ Method Received: HD _____ Faxed _____ Mailed: _____

GUIDELINES FOR AME CHURCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS

If you have identified yourself as applying for a grant under the category of an AME Church and Organization in the 13th Episcopal District, you will need to complete this section of the application. Proposals must demonstrate a plan or project with specific goals and a commitment to outreach, church growth, and community development.

Deadline: Monday, May 1, 2023

Minimum Grant Request: \$1,000.00

Review and Notification Process: All grant applications will be reviewed by the Believe, Inc. Grant Review Committee prior to the 13th Episcopal District Leadership Congress. Final recommendations for awards will be made at the District Leadership Congress for approval by the Believe, Inc. Board of Directors. Grant awards will be announced at the Annual Conference.

Directions for Completing the Grant Application

Please use the following headings and respond completely to all parts of the question.

I. General Guidelines:

- The proposal is to be typed in 12-pt. Times New Roman.
- All text is double-spaced.
- All pages are to be numbered.
- All pages should have a 1" inch margin.
- Maximum number of pages is five (5).

II. Proposal Contents:

- A. Grant Application Cover Sheet
- B. Table of Contents (*with page numbers and name on each page*)
- C. Description the church or organization's request
 - What work of the church is funding being requested?
 - What are the goals and the objectives?
 - What does the church or organization want to accomplish?
 - How will the church or organization accomplish these objectives?
 - When will the objectives be achieved? Include a time table and a work plan for the year the grant is being requested?
 - How will this work lead to systemic change in the church or organization?
 - What have been recent activities, successes and experiences in this area?
 - Are other churches or organizations joining together in this work? If so, describe.
- D. Community Development and Social Change
 - How is your work social change?
 - What is the issue this grant would help you address?
 - What is the underlying cause of this issue?
 - How do you specifically plan to address it?
- E. Evaluation Plan
 - How will you know if this proposed project will be successful?
 - What methods do you have or plan to put in place to evaluate change?
- F. Financial/Budget Information
 - Prepare a detailed budget outlining how requested funds will be used.
 - Prepare a detailed church budget.
- G. Sustainability
 - Describe how receiving the requested funds will enable the church or organization's to continue providing the proposed future activities.

GUIDELINES FOR INDIVIDUALS SCHOLARSHIPS SUPPORT FOR THEOLOGICAL TRAINING

If you have identified yourself as applying as an individual requesting scholarship support for theological training, a member of 13th Episcopal District and have applied or are attending an accredited institution, you will need to complete this section of the application. Proposals must demonstrate an ongoing effort to build new leadership through theological training.

Deadline: Monday, May 1, 2023

Minimum Grant Request: \$1,000.00

Eligibility to apply for this Scholarship Support: Any member of 13th Episcopal District who has applied or is attending a theological program at an accredited institution is eligible to apply. Grant awards are made to individual students during annual conferences upon receipt of a letter of acceptance/transcript and registration/enrollment document for that current semester.

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II. Proposal Contents:

- A. Grant Application Cover Sheet
- B. Table of Contents (with page numbers and name on each page)
- C. Description the Scholarship Request
 - Educational Program - Describe the theological training program for which you plan or are attending and indicate what degree you are seeking
 - Describe your plans and timetable for completing your degree
 - Describe your status in the AME Board of Examiners Program and how obtaining this degree will assist you in your theological progress
 - Describe recent activities, successes and experiences while completing your training
- D. Community Development and Social Change
 - Describe your personal vision for building new leadership through theological training.
- E. Financial Supportive Information
 - Provide a detailed budget including total cost per semester for tuition and other fees.
 - Indicate your actual projected cost per semester and if you are receiving any financial assistance from the school.
 - Describe how you plan to use the requested funds?
- F. Documentation of School Enrollment
 - Submit receipt of a Letter of Acceptance from the college of choice
 - Proof of intent to enroll in Summer or Fall, 2023
 - Submit a copy of most recent Transcript showing at least 2.5 GPA undergraduate/ 3.0 GPA graduate.