



SoCal Baptist Ministries
Helping Churches Reach People

Grant Application Process

Grants

SoCal Baptist Ministries provides one time grants for short term ministry and mission projects and purposes to churches that are in active cooperation with the California Southern Baptist Convention and churches and agencies affiliated with them. If your California Southern Baptist church or related organization is interested in applying for a grant, please read the following information and follow the directions given.

Strategic vs. Small Grants

Requests for up to \$4,000 are referred to as *small grant* requests, which utilize a streamlined grant application. Any requests for over \$4,000 are referred to as *strategic grant* requests which uses the SAME application, but with additional document requirements. (See #2 in How to Apply for a Grant).

General Operating Support vs. Project Support

SoCal Baptist Ministries does not provide general operating support grants or unrestricted fund grants for an organization's overall budget. Rather, the grants provided are intended to support specific ministry and mission projects being sponsored by a Southern Baptist church or other Southern Baptist organization or educational entity.

Focus Areas

The SoCal Board focuses its grant making on five focus areas:

- Evangelistic Outreach Events or Projects
- Ministry Outreach Projects or Events
- Missions Projects or Events
- Disaster Relief Efforts
- Hunger Relief Efforts

Applicants are encouraged to review these focus area priorities to better understand how their organization's work or project fits within the priorities of the SoCal Baptist Ministries Board.

What SoCal Baptist Ministries Rarely Funds

SoCal Baptist Ministries is restricted to making grants to charitable, tax exempt, 501 (c)(3) organizations. SoCal Baptist Ministries does not make grants or loans to individuals or small businesses for any purpose. Grants are not provided for staff salaries or capital expenditures, such as acquiring or upgrading physical assets such as property or equipment.

Before beginning an application, please carefully review the following section on Eligibility.

How to Apply for a Grant

1. Eligibility

SoCal Baptist Ministries is restricted to making grants to the California Southern Baptist Convention and to churches and other tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) organizations affiliated with the Convention. Grants must be for ministry and missions programs and projects. **Your grant application must include a specific statement of how and when the gospel is going to be presented.** No grants are made to individuals or businesses for any purpose.

Out-of-state charitable organizations are eligible to apply for funds to support projects, but all out of state applicants should be aware that out of state grants are rarely made.

NOTE: If an organization has applied to the IRS for its 501(c)(3) status, but has not yet received it, SoCal Baptist Ministries will accept the organization's grant application. A copy of the IRS application must be uploaded along with the online grant application. If IRS approval is imminent, a grant may be awarded to that organization; however, funds will not be disbursed until the organization has provided the SoCal Baptist Ministries with a copy of its 501(c)(3) status letter. If an organization is considering applying to the IRS for its 501(c)(3) status, but has not yet done so, the SoCal Baptist Ministries will not accept a grant application. SoCal recommends the organization apply for a grant in the next grant cycle after completing its application to the IRS.

2. What To Prepare for the Application

ALL applications **REQUIRE**:

- ✓ A detailed explanation and purpose of the project/event.
- ✓ A statement of specifically HOW and WHEN the gospel is going to be presented at the project/event.
- ✓ Scheduled date of the project/event.
- ✓ Detailed budget page of the project/event.
 - Total amount of the budget for the project/event
 - Detailed list of how funds will be used
 - Amount your church/organization is committing to this project/event
 - Dollar amount requesting
- ✓ Proof of 501(c)(3) tax-exemption status.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS if applying for an amount **OVER** \$4,000:

- ✓ Your church/organization annual budget.
- ✓ Your church/organization current financial statements.

3. Apply Online at www.scbministries.org or mail to address shown below

Mail completed application and documentation to:

SoCal Baptist Ministries
c/o California Baptist Foundation
7120 N. Whitney Avenue, Ste. 105
Fresno, CA 93720

4. Keep a copy of the application and attached documentation for your records.

Required Documentation:

- ✓ **Detailed Project budget**
- ✓ **Church or requesting organization's proof of 501 (c)(3) status**
For requests over \$4,000
- ✓ **Church or requesting organization's annual budget**
- ✓ **Church or requesting organization's current financial statements**