



The Episcopal Diocese of New York

Property Support Grant Guidelines

The Episcopal Diocese of New York carries stewardship responsibility for 250 years of sacred spaces in one of the most expensive real estate environments in the country. The Property Support Committee's work is spiritually, pastorally, and strategically grounded to support our congregations' focus on mission by providing aid for property related projects through which the mission can flourish.

In conjunction with the whole Diocese, we are functioning with a commitment to:

- Expand vibrant mission activities and promote growth;
- Address historic inequities in property investment affecting congregations of color (reparations);
- Support energy efficiency, climate resilience, and environmental sustainability (Creation Care);
- Ensure safe church accommodations.

1. What the Program Covers:

Grant requests will be considered for the following building types:

- Church
- Rectory
- Parish Hall
- Other buildings
- Grounds

2. Types of Grants

- Emergency – grants awarded by the Property Services staff for urgent unanticipated property concerns: HVAC, plumbing, roof leaks, etc.
- Consultant – grants for professional services to improve project and strategic planning/data development: architects, engineers, surveyors, other specialized experts.
- Missional – grants for capital projects related to direct missional or indirect missional (income-producing for mission) use of a parish's space. This includes:
 - Basic or complex repairs/improvements (structural, electrical, roof, HVAC, etc.);
 - Compliance and safety measures (ADA, energy/building codes, SafeChurch, etc.);
 - Technology to improve operations, efficiency, safety, communications;
 - Grounds repairs/improvements (e.g. lighting and signage, parking, landscaping);

Note: Capital projects related to rental or other use of surplus space require evidence supporting income projections and local property tax compliance.

3. How to Apply

How much can I request?

- Emergency Grants, up to \$10,000
- Consultation Grants, up to \$10,000
- Missional Grants, generally up to 1/3 of project cost

Requirements for Grant Requests:

- Requests must include a minimum of two (2) bids, 3 recommended.
- Appropriate vendor licensing, insurance, and work permits must be obtained.
- Requests for a project already underway will not be considered.
- Requests for work completed will not be considered.
- Generally, grants cover one third of project cost, parishes cover remaining two thirds.
- All requests must originate from the Vestry or Advisory Board of parishes.
- Thresholds – the Committee can postpone or withhold grants in instances of potential insolvency, referring the parish to pastoral leadership.

Application Cycles:

- Four (4) times a year, generally the first Friday of February, May, August and November.
- Committee members inform parishes by phone of grant decisions, and award letters are issued by EDNY staff following that communication.
- Emergency and consultant grants are considered on a rolling basis throughout the year.

4. Funding Disbursement:

- Diocesan grant funds are typically disbursed to parishes upon proof of phased project completion, including photos, invoices, and proof of payment.
- Alternatively, the Diocese can issue a direct vendor payment upon comparable proof of project completion.
- In instances where assistance is sought with an upfront advance, the Diocese can pay the deposit directly to the vendor, upon confirmation of the approved scope and regulatory filings, if relevant.