



Grant Programs for 2027 & 2028

Empowering Clergy Wellness through CBA Member Organizations

Funded by a Lilly Endowment Hub Grant, the CBA is administering two major programs in 2027 and 2028 to further clergy wellness. Participants in grant funded programs must meet the definition of clergy in your plan document. All details are subject to change as the framework is developed.

Program 1

Full-Scale Denominational Grants

CBA members may design, strengthen, or scale programs that address any single area or combination of the four primary areas of wellness: Financial Wellness*, Mental/Emotional Wellness, Physical Wellness, and Spiritual Wellness.

Assets under Mgmt	Grant Request	Match Required
\$0 – \$400M	\$250k – \$1M	0% – 25% (Encouraged, not required)
\$400M – \$1B	\$250k – \$1M+	25% – 50%
\$1B+	\$250k – \$1M+	50% – 100%

*Grants will not be awarded to programs only addressing financial wellness, because the Lilly Endowment already has an active initiative addressing economic challenges facing pastoral leaders.

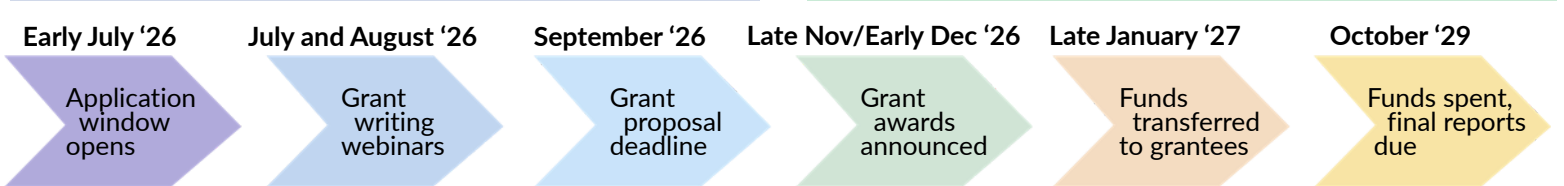
Program 2

Be Still and Know Clergy Grants

CBA members may apply for a lump sum of grant funds to be distributed for 30-day sabbatical leaves for their clergy.*

- **Eligible clergy:** full or part-time, serving churches with a budget of less than \$200,000, with an average attendance of 125 or less
- **Up to \$5,000 per grant award** to clergy and church
- Funds will be used for a **renewal experience** for clergy that includes play and recreation, professional guidance (coaching, counseling, spiritual direction), and congregational costs such as pulpit supply.
- Congregations must commit to granting the 30-day leave **in addition to allotted vacation and sick time**
- CBA member organization provides **matching funds** according to the chart under Program 1.

*Organizational grant application limits will be published in the summer of 2026



How to Prepare Now

- **Reflect:** Identify priority needs and opportunities for clergy wellness in your organization.
- **Gather Stories:** Collect narratives and qualitative insights illustrating the challenges among your clergy. Clarify how additional capacity will address needs and opportunities.
- **Capacity:** Take stock of your organization's infrastructure to support fund disbursement and future programming.
- **Leaders:** Identify your clergy wellness "champions."
- **Mindset:** Focus on readiness, not perfection. These programs are designed to meet you where you are.