

HEBA Grants

BU Mission Grants (formerly Home Mission Grants)

A budget of these funds is received from the BUGB and allocated in support of Ministry in churches. Although most grants paid to churches are in support of accredited Baptist Ministers, grants are available to support unaccredited ministers and pastors and Ministers in Training.

The Association is committed to supporting churches in this way and if the approved grant requests exceed the budget funds may be found within the Association to support requests.

- Grants are normally for a maximum of 50% of the stipend cost and this stipend must be paid at the BU Standard Stipend rate.
- The percentage requested is expected to reduce by at least 5% each year so that other requests can be met.
- Grants will not be given to support additional ministers for churches who already have a minister.
- Grants are not for 'failing churches running out of money' but to support 'mission opportunities'.
- Churches with reserves of less than £25,000 will be given priority.
- The application needs to include a copy of the previous year's accounts, rather than a schedule of all the entries in that year. Please see Baptist Together [leaflet F02](#) for suggested layout. This can be downloaded from the Baptist Union website.

BU Mission Project Grants

The Association can also provide 'one off' grants up to £3,000 in support of a mission opportunity.

- It is expected that churches will be using some of their own funds as well as requesting the grant.
- These grants are not available year after year, normally a maximum of one year in three.
- It is hoped that these one-off events may lead to further ongoing mission of the church. After the event has taken place the church will be asked to send in a brief report.

HEBA Grants (up to £1,000)

These grants are to help churches acquire equipment, up to a maximum of 50% of the cost of the item with a maximum grant of £1000. Grants are NOT given for items that have already been bought. Grants have been provided for items such as:

- Projection Equipment
- Installation of Equipment for use by the Disabled

Grants for Ministers

Various grants are available in support of Ministers and their studies.

- Grants are available for Minister's Post Graduate Studies (Masters or PhD). Grants are normally a maximum of £500 per annum (and a maximum of £2,000 in total for any period of study).
- Grants are available to churches seeking to help fund their minister's sabbatical studies and is given in addition to the church's contribution. The grant (normal maximum £250) should be applied for by the church and minister jointly.
- Resource Grants are available to Ministers-in-training from HEBA churches studying at Baptist colleges. Those eligible students will be invited to apply shortly after the new academic year has commenced. Other ministers-in-training working in HEBA churches but from other Associations may be invited to apply for a smaller grant.

HEBA Grants for Mission

The money set aside for supporting larger projects has been distributed over the last 12 years and we can no longer financially support these longer-term projects. Additionally, we will not provide finance for a second worker.

However, we are committed to encouraging and supporting mission initiatives and it is expected that they can be covered by the BU Mission Project Grant.

Grants for Pioneers

The Association are keen to support pioneers who are seeking to share the Good News of Jesus where typical church ministry is not appropriate.

In these situations, we recognise that ministry will be varied and innovative, but it is also important to ensure appropriate accountability.

As a guideline, the following will be considered: -

1. Seek to grow a Christian 'community of faith' connected to the Baptist Family.
2. Led by an accredited minister or someone recognised as a pioneer by a Baptist Church or Association.
3. Pioneer needs to be 'employed' by a Baptist church or Baptist organisation or by a constituted group in covenant relationship with HEBA. HEBA will not be the employer.
4. Up to 50% of BU standard stipend (plus pension).
5. Agree outcomes (what is purpose of the project and what can be expected).
6. Pioneer needs to sign up to Continual Ministerial (Personal) Development.
7. Relevant Safeguarding training must be completed.
8. An initial agreement of up to 3 years.
9. An annual report will be required.

HEBA Energy Saving and Conservation Grants 2022

General Information

These grants will help churches to implement energy saving and conservation measures and promote wildlife and environmental preservation and improvement.

The grants will focus on small churches (40 or less members).

The scope of the grant covers both church buildings and manses.

The level of reserves held by the church will be considered in line with the criteria applied to Mission Grant applications (i.e. churches with reserves of less than £25,000 will be given priority).

Grants awarded will be up to a maximum of or 50% of total cost and restricted to a maximum amount of £500 per grant.

Eligibility Criteria

- Only tried and tested solutions that are known to work rather than new technologies that are yet to reach maturity will be considered, examples include improving draft proofing, insulations, better control of heating system, change to LED lighting, insulation of walls or ceilings, with the focus on heating people not spaces.
- Outdoor wildlife promotion measures (i.e. pond creation, composting, growing fruit and or vegetables, rainwater collection facilities /“grey water” systems and water butts etc.
- Purchase of bicycle racks.
- Facilities to actively encourage church members to use land for recreation and/or contemplation.
- The church should have undertaken some kind of energy audit to map out the carbon footprint of the building – this could be engaging with Eco-church scheme or BMS carbon footprint calculator (see website links below).
- The church should provide a clear indication of how the proposed works will reduce their carbon footprint and by what amount.
- The church should currently be using a sustainable energy supplier – renewable electricity, offsetting gas usage (subject to current contract limitations in which case a firm commitment to do so at a future date must be provided).
- A maximum of one grant application every three years will be applied.

Useful Information:

https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/349554/Baptist_Union_Environment.aspx

<https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>

<https://www.bmsworldmission.org/other-ways-to-give/bms-carbon-calculator/>

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/caring-your-building/environmental-sustainability>

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/our-work-in-britain/environment-and-climate-change/take-action-carbon-reduction-tips/>

Helen Youth Fund

This fund was established in memory of Helen Hayes (nee Williams) who worked as joint Youth Secretary for the Association but who died in 1991. The fund is now closed to further donations, but applications can still be made by young people under 25 to assist in the funding of periods of study and periods working abroad (minimum period abroad four weeks).

Applicants should be young people from within our churches to encourage the use of their gifts and the development of their leadership skills.

How do I apply?

Applications from Ministers and Churches will require the support of their Regional Minister, so they are the first point of contact.

Application forms can be obtained from Sue Coates, Finance Manager

sue@baptist-heartofengland.org

0121 472 4986

When will I know if I have been successful?

The HEBA Grants Group meets five times a year in February, May, July, September and November. Applications forms should be submitted no later than two weeks before the next meeting. After the meeting the moderator of the Grants Group needs to agree the 'minutes' of the meeting before decisions are conveyed to the applicants.