



Welcome to the Free Will Baptist Foundation Grants Program. God has grown our program to the point that we can begin to offer gifts for innovative and outstanding projects, planned, designed, and implemented by Free Will Baptists that will further the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ.

About the Free Will Baptist Foundation

History: The Free Will Baptist Foundation was approved as a new department at the July 1980 annual convention of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. Herman Hersey was the founding director. Due to limited finances, it operated in conjunction with the Board of Retirement, using their elected board and directors of national departments (Director of North American Missions, President of Welch College and the Director of International Missions) as the Foundation board and the Board of Retirement employees. The other national department directors were appointed to the board later. The department struggled to grow its assets in the early years and had around \$920,000 in total assets by the time the next director, William Evans, assumed the reins in 1993. Rapid growth began to occur throughout the 90's, and by 2005, total assets reached around \$33 million. The Foundation asked the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc. to elect a separate nine-member board, in addition to the directors of national agencies, completely severing their dependent relationship with the Board of Retirement. In 2007, David Brown became the third director. At the present time, assets exceed \$77 million.

The Development and Purpose of the Grant Program: The grant program has developed as the Foundation shifted its focus on different kinds of investments. The Money Management Trust (MMT) pool of investments had traditionally been invested in government bonds, but the great recession that started in 2008 forced the Foundation to look to dividend paying stock to keep the yield up in the MMT fund. The board elected to use only dividend income to support the MMT fund and divert any realized gains to create a grant program. This shift to dividend stock investments has caused the Foundation to realize capital gains. The growth in assets by the Foundation will also contribute to and extend the grant program indefinitely as any service fees earned, but not needed for operations, will also fund grants.

The Preliminary Eligibility Self-Screening Aid for Grant Proposals to the Free Will Baptist Foundation

- Free Will Baptist entities holding membership in the National Association of Free Will Baptist, Inc., in accordance with Article II in the constitution of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc., are eligible to apply.
- Preference will be given to entities that will have greater impact, longer implications and innovative creative solutions.
- Preference will be given to projects that are considered essential for the denomination. Funds will not be awarded for emergency general operation expenses.
- Previous grant recipients will be evaluated on how previous projects were reported.

Limitations/Warnings

- Applications must be **signed** by the head of the entity, not just the project creator/director.
- No applications will be accepted past deadlines.

The Free Will Baptist Foundation Application Timeframes		
Applications Due	Notifications and Funding	Follow Up Reports Due
March 15 of the apply year	Notifications will be sent by April 30 of the apply year	March 15 of the year after the grant is funded

The Selection Process

- Applications will be presented to the Grant Proposal Selection Committee for screening.
- Qualifying applications will be reviewed by the Free Will Baptist Foundation Board.
- Agency Directors shall not participate in the screening or selection process.
- Board members who have decision making authority regarding an application will recuse themselves.

The Grant Proposal Guidelines and Instructions for Applying

After carefully reviewing the previous information and determining eligibility, complete the application and provide a narrative proposal. The narrative proposal should be a maximum of **5 pages** of 8 1/2 by 11 inches, double-spaced, twelve-point font, single-sided, with 1-inch margins covering the following areas. If you wish, you may select key words from the material below for division headings and ease of reading.

- I. The introduction to petitioning entity — history, summary description of activities, selected recent accomplishments, and other pertinent information.
- II. The names, phone numbers, addresses, and e-mail addresses of the senior leader of the entity and the project leader, including a brief description of their qualifications. They can be the same person.
- III. The description of the proposed project.
 - a. The title of the project, two or three sentences of description, and amount sought from the Free Will Baptist Foundation.
 - b. The persons/person responsible for record keeping — both the financial and the project process.
 - c. The other staffing.
 - d. The target audience and problems/needs to be addressed — Who needs this program or building? Do not describe in terms of the entity’s needs (e.g., “We need a new building because this one is old and ugly”); describe problems or needs in terms of human life. What problems are you seeking to solve? Be as specific as possible.
 - e. How the project addresses these needs/problems? Why can’t you meet those with your

present resources?

- f. Specific Measurable Objectives — How many people will this affect immediately, further down the road, in eternity? But start with those that can be counted. For example, the project seeks to immerse 30 Free Will Baptist Pastors in international missions in the first year by way of week-long onsite seminars, using place and text or methods.
- g. The evaluation process — What instruments, counting processes, surveys, etc. are you going to put in place to evaluate the success of the project based on the objectives (after it is finished)? Who will be responsible for evaluation?
- h. The outcomes — What results do you envision seeing in the lives of the people served? The pastors, their congregations and other people they will touch?
Specificity! For example: We envision that (1) at least 25 of those 30 pastors will be profoundly moved by the experience (self-reporting); (2) at least 20 of those pastors will increase the awareness of missions in their congregations following this project; (3) at least 15 of those congregations will increase their giving to international missions; (4) the people on at least 2 mission fields will be directly impacted by hearing the gospel as a result of this seminar.
- i. The project timeline and how it fits within the grants program timeline.
- j. The plans for continuation, maintenance, and further development of the project.
- k. The plans for dissemination of the model of the project (if applicable) to others in the denomination.
- l. The project budget narrative (explaining costs of attached projected budget).

IV. Send application as PDF or Word Doc. by email: tina@nafwb.org or by mail: Free Will Baptist Foundation PO Box 5002 Antioch, TN 37011.

FREE WILL BAPTIST
FOUNDATION 

**GRANT APPLICATION
COVER SHEET**

Applying Organization:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Contact: _____

Amount Requested: \$ _____

Object / Purpose:

Organization's Connection to National Association of Free Will Baptists:

Free Will Baptist Foundation GRANT Prerequisites & Qualifying Criteria

Applicant and Recipient of grant must support district, state, and national associations. YES NO

Applicant and Recipient of grant must hold membership in the National Association of Free Will Baptist, Inc. according to Article II in NAFWB Constitution. YES NO

Grant funds requested not used for operational general/annual funding nor emergency relief. YES NO

If a previous grant recipient, a thorough accounting of funds awarded and status of project has been provided. YES NO

Applicant and Recipient of grant is in good financial standing regarding any loan from FWB Foundation. YES NO

A "NO" from any of the previous questions disqualifies the applicant from consideration.

Free Will Baptist Foundation Rubric for Grants

	0-5 pts.	6-10 pts.	11-15 pts.	16-20 pts.	Core Category Measurement
Denominationally Essential grant request supports the work of the Free Will Baptist value system & moves denominational work forward.	The idea supports 1 of 4 denominational essentials: mission, doctrine, growth, or expansion of denominational values.	The idea supports 2 of 4 denominational essentials: mission, doctrine, growth, or expansion of denominational values.	The idea supports 3 of 4 denominational essentials: mission, doctrine, growth, or expansion of denominational values.	The idea completely supports the mission, doctrine, growth, and expansion of denominational values.	FWB
Innovative Solution grant request creatively addresses ministry needs & expands discipleship efforts into the future.	The idea possesses little innovation in uniqueness and application. Less than standard approach.	The idea may be more common but is still needed. Standard approach	The idea may not be unique but addressess the proposed solution. Innovative approach.	The idea possess innovation that is unique not previously adressed in this manner. Innovative/unique approach.	Creativity
Greater Impact grant request yields the largest expansion of gospel presentation, discipleship, & ministry to people.	The idea directly impacts up to 100 or the idea has churchwide reach with its actual usage (not as defined by the church's ability to inadvertently affect citywide or beyond).	The idea directly impacts 100-999 or the idea has citywide reach with its actual usage (not as defined by people who are impacted by idea may inadvertently go citywide or beyond).	The idea directly impacts 1000-5,000 or the idea has statewide reach with its actual usage (not as defined by people who are impacted by idea may inadvertently go statewide or beyond).	The idea diretly impacts 5,000 plus or the idea has nationwide/worldwide reach with its actual usage (not as defined by people who are impacted by idea may inadvertently go nationwide/worldwide).	Geographical or Numerical
Long-Term Implications grant request results in the largest longevity of ministry advancement & growth.	The implications of grant would still be in effect for 5 years or less. Affects less than one generation.	The implications of grant would still be in effect 5-10 years. Affects the current generation.	The implications of grant would still be in effect 10-20 years. Affects 1-2 generations.	The implications of grant would still be in effect 20 plus years. Affects 2 or more generations.	Time

Last Update Dec. 2021