



The Archbishop of Canterbury's
Anglican Communion Fund

Personal Emergencies Fund

Guidelines

The Personal Emergencies Fund provides grant funds for emergency or urgent medical care where there is no other source of support available and where funding for treatment will enable an applicant to return to ministry unencumbered by medical illness (or preoccupation with an immediate family members health issue). The fund will support, in this order:

1. Bishops, priests and deacons in Anglican orders and in full communion with the Anglican Communion;
2. Immediate family of the above (spouse and dependent child living at home);
3. Church workers, as verified by the bishop, who spend at least 50% of their time to church ministry.

The PEF is a small fund and can not approve all requests. Applicants should apply only after all other available sources of diocesan and provincial support have been exhausted.

Priority will be given to:

- Reversible medical issues that enable a return to ministry. It is normally outside of the capacity of available PEF funds to treat ongoing or long-term illness.
- The PEF will accept a maximum of one application per year per family.
- A grant for medical costs greater than £10,000 will only be considered in very exceptional circumstances. *We are open to working with partner organisations to try to increase the level of funding if higher levels of funding are needed.*

Grant funds will be targeted towards medical expenses in the first instance. The PEF encourages treatment to be sought at the most local medical facility available. In situations where, out of necessity, treatment must take place away from home, the PEF can consider a contribution towards travel and accommodation expenses. In such cases, a separate, clear budget for these expenses should be provided together with quotations or other supporting documentation.

- The PEF does not normally cover on-going medication or treatment and is not available to those in retirement.
- The application needs to be endorsed by the Diocesan Bishop and Primate or Provincial Secretary on behalf of the person /people involved.
- The application needs to be accompanied by (i) a doctors' report of the diagnosis and treatment required; and (ii) evidence of either payments made (in the form of receipts or medical bills) or the anticipated costs.
- If a grant is given, payment will be made to the Diocesan/Provincial account, subject to verification.

- The full payment of bills is not automatic and in most cases the grant can cover part payment of bills. (As the PEF is a small fund, it is aimed at assisting as many people as possible).
- A person who falls sick while travelling in another country without appropriate travel/medical insurance cover may not be eligible to receive PEF support.
- A Reference Panel decides on behalf of the Trustees to award or not to award a grant, and priority will be given to first time applicants.
- PEF medical support is given on the basis that the beneficiary and the sponsoring church/institution will provide a report on the use of the money and outcome of treatment.

The PEF Reference Panel may consider deviations to the above guidelines in extraordinary circumstances.

For further information and an Application Form, please e-mail: pef@lambethpalace.org.uk.

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