

Missouri Baptist Convention (MBC)
Domestic Hunger Relief Network Grant Guidelines:

1. **Supplemental.** Missouri Hunger Funds are used to assist recipients in implementing feeding ministries and programs in response to local food insecurity. Missouri Hunger Funds are intended as a supplement to recipients' own resources, so requests matching Missouri Hunger Funds with local contributions will be given priority.
2. **Immediate Utilization.** Funds will be distributed in response to requests detailing community needs and specific ways in which funds will be expended. Funds are not distributed for holding in the account of a local church, association or other organization without current and ongoing distribution for the designated purpose.
3. **Program Investment.** No Missouri Hunger Funds may be used to support personnel or other administrative costs.
4. **Collaboration:** Recipients should communicate regularly with other local feeding programs and organizations (both governmental and non-governmental) to avoid duplication of services.
5. **Stewardship.** Recipients should exercise stewardship by partnering with local food banks and other agencies that provide no-cost or deeply discounted food and grocery products through distribution centers for community food pantries.
6. **Local Investment.** Recipients requesting funds for any collective program of food distribution or meal preparation must also be contributing their own financial and/or human resources to the program. Such programs should be denominational, ecumenical or strongly supportive of the mission of local churches.
7. **Disbursement.** The executive director or the Hunger Relief staff designee will be authorized to distribute Missouri Hunger Funds to individual MBC churches, associations, missions partners and other agencies (missions partners and other agencies must involve collaboration between more than one MBC church, and cannot be combined with individual requests) at the following funding levels:
 - a. One-time projects:
 - i. MBC churches – Disbursements of up to \$750 per project, two projects annually (maximum of \$1,500 per year), administered on a rolling basis.
 - ii. Associations, mission partners and other agencies – Disbursements of up to \$1,000 per project, two projects annually (maximum of \$2,000 per year), administered on a rolling basis.
 - iii. Churches and Associations – rare and extraordinary circumstances that create an immediate food insecurity crisis. Up to \$5,000 based on project plan.

b. Ongoing ministries, such as food pantries, community gardens, and regular meal provision (i.e., regular food backpacks sent home with kids for the weekend, etc).

i. MBC churches –Disbursements of up to \$500 per request (maximum of \$2,000 per year) via request form, processed on a quarterly basis.

a. Large scale operations may request up to \$1,000 per request (maximum of \$4,000 per year) via request form, processed on a quarterly basis.

ii. Associations, mission partners and other agencies – Disbursements of up to \$750 per request (maximum of \$3,000 per year) via request form, processed on a quarterly basis.

c. Strategic or innovative start-ups, such as co-ops, training programs, large scale urban agriculture, and other more developmental approaches to food insecurity.

i. One-time disbursement up to \$5,000, with additional application requirements and oversight, administered on a rolling basis.

MBC churches, associations, mission partners and other agencies use the same request process.

d. One-time matching gift for capital expense directly related to food procurement, food storage, or food delivery up to \$5,000.

Important: The above disbursements are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis until the funds allotted for the year have been exhausted. Once the Missouri Hunger Fund is depleted disbursements will cease until the fund is replenished in the following year.