

# **Applying for Sabbatical Grants**

**through Churches of Christ (NSW & ACT)**

**Becoming a Sabbath Community: A Guide for Churches**

**A churches of Christ (NSW & ACT) handbook**

# Applying for Sabbatical Grants

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We estimate it costs on average \$20,000 to take a sabbatical. According to this model, a churches of Christ Sabbatical Grant can cover 50% of this, or \$10,000.

However, we also recognise this needs to be considered on a case-by-case scenario, as some churches can fund 100%, some 50%, and some 0%.

### Who can receive funds?

- Grants are paid to the church, not to individuals
- All paid staff at a church, whether senior or junior, full-time or part-time

### What can funds be used for?

#### For Church

- Cost of interim minister
- Travel and accommodation
- Paying staff to work additional hours

#### For Pastors

- Intentional Retreats
- Counselling, Psychology, Spiritual Direction
- Study
- Attend events and conferences
- Travel and accommodation

Apply for a grant at: <https://ccnswact.org.au/sabbatical-grants/sabbatical-grants-application-form/>

Again, we reiterate the areas of depletion would be the areas to which funding is directed. For example, if it is family relationships that have most suffered depletion from the role, then it would be appropriate that funds are directed to counselling, family experiences, etc.

If it is in academic learning, then funding a study sabbatical would be appropriate. On this point, another resource is a separate fund which has been set up to support sabbaticals for those of the united reformed tradition, which includes churches of Christ. Based in the UK, they offer scholarships for accommodation for those undertaking a sabbatical which involves study. You can access more information by clicking on the following links:

<https://www.westminster.cam.ac.uk/cheshunt>

<https://www.westminster.cam.ac.uk/urc/sabbaticals>

## **Where does Sabbatical Grants funding come from?**

The Sabbatical Grants are fully-funded by the Robertson Bequest, administered by The Churches of Christ Property Trust.