

# Leadership Development Partnership Grant – Student Responsibilities

## Step 1 – Ensure Eligibility

- Review the application process and ensure eligibility.

## Step 2 – Prepare Profile and Meet with Church Discernment Team

- Participate in the discernment process:
  - Meet with the leader of the discernment process from your supporting church to agree on the timeline and elements of the discernment process.
  - Prepare a personal profile (approx. 500-750 words). This profile will be used in the discernment process and will also be submitted as part of your application. It should include the following:
    - A description of significant transition points in your life and how they shaped you,
    - A description of your church, school, and community involvement,
    - A description of your talents, abilities, and spiritual gifts personal reflections on your character,
    - A description of your personality,
    - Your testimony,
    - A statement about your career goals and/or ministry objectives,
    - Your resume (separate document)
- Review your personal profile with the leader of the discernment process and make necessary edits.
- Submit your finalized personal profile to the leader of the discernment process so that it can be shared with the discernment team members.
- Respond to any questions that may come from discernment team members.
- Meet with the discernment team upon request from the leader.

## Step 3 – Submit Application

- Complete and submit your LDPG Application to Kara Friesen ([kara.friesen@mbchurches.ca](mailto:kara.friesen@mbchurches.ca)).
- Upon approval, submit the following documents to Kara Friesen for each academic semester:
  - The tuition fee invoice you receive from your school,
  - The course schedule that corresponds with your tuition fee invoice.
- Pay the student's portion of the tuition fees.

## LDPG Discernment Process for the Supporting Church

The LDPG Discernment Process for the Supporting Church is designed to be used in conjunction with ***Finding Leaders for Tomorrow's Churches*** by all participants. Page numbers from this resource are noted after each step.

- It is the church's responsibility to identify participants for the discernment process (pp. 5-8).
- Identify/assign an individual to act as the leader of the discernment process and choose a discernment team (pp. 11-12).
- The leader of the discernment process meets with the candidate to agree on the timeline and elements of the discernment process (p. 13).
- The candidate prepares a personal profile and reviews it with the leader of the discernment process (pp. 14-15).
- Prior to reading the candidate's profile, members of the discernment team should write reflections about the candidate's suitability for their desired ministry direction (p. 15).
- Once the candidate is satisfied with their profile, a copy is given to the discernment team leader for distribution to the other team members (p. 15).
- Each member of the discernment team reviews the candidate's profile. Discernment team members are encouraged to meet individually with the candidate and often find it valuable to take the candidate out for coffee or lunch to ask questions they may have (p. 15).
- The discernment leader plans the discernment meeting (a three-hour allowance is recommended) and designates someone to take detailed notes (p. 15).
- The discernment team meets with the candidate to listen, to pray, and to discern. The candidate will share about their life, their involvement in ministry, and their desire to study (p. 16).
- The discernment team debriefs without the candidate present and reviews specific follow up assignments for team members (p. 16).
- The leader of the discernment team communicates recommendations to the candidate and to the church leadership/congregation (p. 16).
- The leader of the discernment team ensures that church leadership allocates sufficient funds for the LDPG contribution.

- The leader of the discernment team follows up on the conclusions of the discernment meeting and prepares a written summary. This summary will be given to the candidate and included as part of their LDPG application. This should include:
  - A summary of the candidate's profile, their giftedness, and ministry plans.
  - A summary of insight and counsel discussed.
  - A statement of recommendation for the LDPG program and local church leadership. For example, "We have encouraged \_\_\_\_\_ to pursue further education in preparation for ministry. We are recommending \_\_\_\_\_ to CCMBC for the LDPG program. Specific observations and affirmations that have led us to this point include..."

**Consider next steps such as:**

- Identify an individual from the church who will take responsibility for nurturing the candidate's growth in ministry (p. 17).
- Create an occasion to bless the candidate for ministry and recognize their response to the call of God and the church to pursue ministry (p. 17).
- Provide hands-on experience by giving the candidate opportunities to lead and experience ministry (p. 18).
- Continue contact and support as a sending church (p. 19).