

Iowa United Methodist Church Parish Development Committee
Builder's Call Selection Process

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What funding year is the Funding Application for?

The Application is for funding for *next year's* Spring or Fall Builder's Calls. Two churches are selected each year to receive the Builder's Call: one in the spring, and one in the fall. Applications are first due to your district superintendent no later than August 15th. The application is then sent onto the Conference Parish Development (Scott Hibben, LDM for evangelism and new ministry) by September 7, where in their fall meeting Parish Development picks two churches for next year's calls. Their recommendation is taken to the Board of Global Ministries, and then to the Appointive Cabinet for final approval.

2. If we have had an application that didn't get selected in a previous year, do we have to re-apply?

Yes. All applications are kept for one year at a time; however, we encourage each church to re-apply if it wishes to be considered again.

3. Are there some types of requests that are more likely to be funded than others?

Yes. Requests for a Builder's Call needs to be for capital expenditures -- such as a new building, a new addition, a relocation or merger with a new building -- that intentionally reach out to ones community. Requests to assist with regular maintenance projects or debt retirement on the existing building loans will be given a low priority. We encourage applications to speak to the Conference mission of *making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world*.

4. What does the Conference's "strategic priorities" of Creating world-transforming communities of faith / Equipping ourselves and others as transformational leaders – Directing our resources to our common goals, have to do with the Builder's Call?

Our buildings should be connected to, and be a reflection of, the ministries that God is calling us to do. (Mission determines ministry.) Priority will be given to Builder's Call applications that respond to the points within this vision.

5. How much funding should we expect from a Builder's Call?

It varies with each Builder's Call. Over the last five years, it has ranged from \$30,000 to \$40,000.

6. May we apply for more than one project?

Yes. You need to use a different application form for Matthew 25, Church Extension, or Hispanic Ministries. Be certain to note the different projects in the "General Information" section of each Application form.

7. Do you plan to fund only building plans for ministries that have “no money”? Do ministries that may have some resources but are doing lots of things and need some help to get their project started have a realistic chance for funding?

All projects will be assessed on their merits and the ministry they are undertaking. The funding committee looks at the value of the building project, and the local support as evidenced by the cash presently on hand. We are aware that some ministries need significant help in order to initiate a building project. Other ministries may be able to generate significant local resources, but need additional help for loans or for other reasons. The Parish Development Committee attempts to be good stewards of our Builder’s Call gifts.

8. What if, after the District site visit, we want to change our application? Can we do that?

Yes. You may refine, modify, or completely re-write your application, as long as you do so in cooperation and communication with the District team who visited with you. Your revised/redone application will need to have the appropriate site visit information, as well as the appropriate signatures, and will still need to be in the Conference Office by September 7th.

9. What type of follow-up will you be doing?

All churches that apply will receive notification whether or not they have been selected for a Builder’s Call. Applicants that are selected will receive instructions from the Communications office as to how to submit materials for a brochure and letter to be sent to all Builders and churches. After churches receive their money, we ask for a thank you letter to share with the Builders about the achievements of the project to date.

10. The application says we can get an electronic version of the application on the web page. Can we submit it electronically as well?

No, not yet. You can download the application from the Conference web-site (www.iaumc.org → Resources → Builder’s Call). However, applications need to be submitted to the district office in hard copy.

11. If we are selected, when will we receive the money?

You can expect the Treasurer’s Office to send one check to you for the full amount shortly after the next Builder’s Call is announced (within the Bishop’s invitational letter).