The Louisville Institute First Book Grant for Scholars of Color assists early career, pre-tenured religion scholars of color to complete a major research project about Christian faith and life, the practice of ministry, religious trends and movements, Christian and other faith-based institutions, and religion and social issues. Of particular interest to the Louisville Institute are projects that bridge academic scholarship and the life of the church in North America.

GRANT DETAILS

Project Grant Amount:
Up to US$40,000

Project Timeframe:
Academic year 2024-2025, or calendar year 2025

Application Due Date:
January 15, 2024 (11:59 p.m. EST)

Awards Announced:
April 1, 2024

Winter Seminar:
January 22-24, 2025
WHAT IS THE FIRST BOOK GRANT FOR SCHOLARS OF COLOR?

The First Book Grant for Scholars of Color (FBG) supports academic sabbatical leave for research projects about Christian faith and life, the practice of ministry, religious trends and movements, Christian and other faith-based institutions, and religion and social issues. The intention of the First Book Grant is to help early-career scholars of color compete research and writing for publication of their first book (or a second book, if necessary for tenure). We are especially interested in projects that demonstrate a desire to bridge the North American church and academy, and preference is given to studies already underway (e.g., projects under contract or consideration with a publisher).

Applicants should be pre-tenured faculty members working in full-time, tenure-track or renewable contract/continual academic positions at accredited institutions of higher education (seminary, theological school, or college/university) in the United States or Canada. The FBG typically buys a second term or semester of academic release that enables scholars to spend a full school year devoted to the research project free from teaching and administrative responsibilities. Grants awarded in the 2024 cycle will fund sabbaticals taking place during the 2024-2025 academic year, or during the 2025 calendar year. You can read more about previous FBG grantees and their projects on our website.

First Book grantees also attend Winter Seminar, a three-day gathering in Louisville, KY, in which award recipients from four different Louisville Institute programs gather to share their projects and engage in valuable collaboration together. Winter Seminar for this grant cycle will take place January 22–24, 2025, and all related expenses for participants are paid by the Louisville Institute. Attending this event is a requirement for receiving a First Book Grant.

QUESTIONS?
Please email grants@louisville-institute.org.
WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Eligible candidates:

- are self-identified persons of color
- have earned a terminal research degree, typically a Ph.D. or Th.D.
- are pre-tenured faculty members working in full-time, tenure-track or renewable contract/continual academic positions at accredited institutions of higher education (seminary, theological school, or college/university) in the United States or Canada
- are engaged in a scholarly research project leading to publication of their first book, or a second book if necessary for tenure at their institution
- can negotiate release time of up to a full academic year free from teaching and administrative responsibilities in order to carry out their project
- may work in various fields such as history, systematic and practical theology, social science, ethics, biblical studies, etc., or be interdisciplinary.

Additional eligibility information:

- Doctoral students are not eligible for a First Book Grant but may be eligible for one of our fellowship programs.
- Any previous fellowships or grants from the Louisville Institute must be completed and final reports submitted before applying for another LI fellowship or grant. Additionally, you may only apply for one LI grant or fellowship between June 1, 2023, and May 31, 2024.
- Members of the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary staff, faculty, Board of Trustees, or student body or their immediate family members (parents, spouses, or children) are ineligible for Louisville Institute grants or fellowships. Members of the Louisville Institute Advisory Board and their immediate family members are also ineligible.
- Louisville Institute grantees may not simultaneously hold two individual grants from Lilly Endowment-funded organizations that together total more than US$45,000.

QUESTIONS?
Please email grants@louisville-institute.org.
HOW CAN I USE THE FUNDS?

- FBG funds typically buy release time from academic duties, usually to support a second term or semester of academic release to supplement an existing semester/term sabbatical. *If you work at an institution that does not grant sabbaticals and/or if you are in a full-time, permanent teaching position that does not include sabbatical leave, you must contact us to discuss your eligibility before applying for this grant: grants@louisville-institute.org.*
- It is common for the total amount of a First Book budget to be designated for salary/benefit replacement.
- If you are requesting sabbatical funds for research materials or assistance, travel, or other resources, you will need to prepare a line-item and an explanatory budget narrative (see page 14).
- For questions about grant proposals, please email grants@louisville-institute.org.

HOW DO I APPLY?

- Specific requirements of the application are described starting on page 7.
- All application elements are submitted online through our application portal.
- Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. EDT January 15, 2024, and letters of recommendation are *due from the recommenders* January 22, 2024.
- We strongly encourage you to share your proposal with trusted colleagues — ideally those who will write your recommendation letters — to receive feedback and suggestions prior to submitting your application.

WHAT MAKES FOR A STRONG APPLICATION?

- Read the application materials and make sure you follow the instructions carefully.
- Strong applications offer a clear and intriguing primary question and a thoughtful project plan related to that question. Selection committees want to know what makes you passionate and excited about your idea, and how you intend to dig into it.
- The most competitive projects are connected to or important for the North American church, and bridge the church and the academy.
- Please don’t hesitate to ask questions as you go along! Email grants@louisville-institute.org.
WHAT IS THE SELECTION PROCESS?

- The Louisville Institute appoints a selection committee to review proposals and award First Book Grants.
- In recent years, we have averaged 20 applications, and this year will award 3 grants.
- The selection committee meets about 8 weeks after the application due date. All applicants are notified by email as soon as possible after the selection process.
- Awards will be announced publicly around April 1, 2024.

WHAT IS WINTER SEMINAR?

First Book grantees attend Winter Seminar, a three-day gathering in Louisville, KY, in which award recipients from four different Louisville Institute programs gather to share their projects and engage in valuable collaboration together. Winter Seminar for this grant cycle will take place January 22–24, 2025, and all related expenses for participants are paid by the Louisville Institute. Attending this event is a requirement for receiving a First Book Grant.

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

- You are welcome to apply again for any of our grants or fellowships — in fact, it’s very common! However, you may only apply for one grant or fellowship between June 1, 2023, and May 31, 2024.
- Any previous fellowships or grants from the Louisville Institute must be completed and final reports submitted before applying for another LI fellowship or grant.
- Please send any questions to grants@louisville-institute.org.
HOW CAN I ASK FOR FEEDBACK?

We can provide some initial feedback on your project idea to see if it’s a good fit for our grants. Being specific and focused about your project will yield more helpful feedback from us. Before you submit a feedback request, please run your idea by trusted colleagues to get their thoughts. Additionally, if your project involves research participants, please seek their input before asking for LI feedback.

To request feedback, use this link to respond to the following questions:

- What is the primary question you want to explore? (50 words or fewer)
- Why is this project important to you, your community, and/or the church in North America? (100 words or fewer)
- How are you planning to carry out your study? Give a brief overview of where and/or with whom you hope to work, the research methods you might use (e.g., archival research, interviews, surveys, observation, visits, etc.), and why you’ve chosen these strategies (350 words or fewer).

Because we receive many requests for feedback, responses can take several weeks, but we will respond to all feedback requests submitted prior to December 1.

QUESTIONS?
Please email grants@louisville-institute.org.
PREPARING YOUR APPLICATION

1. **Read through all the application materials** in this guide so you know what you will need to prepare.

2. **Create an online profile on our application portal.** You will be asked to provide your name, contact information, and other information about yourself. If you have previously applied for a Louisville Institute program, make sure to update your contact information.

3. Once you have created your profile, **click the “Apply” button and select “First Book Grant”** to begin entering the elements of your application.

4. **Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. EST January 15, 2024.** We recommend that you put together the application elements in time to share them with friends or colleagues for feedback before submitting them. Please do your best to provide clear, refined, and edited documents, noting which elements should be submitted as PDFs.

5. **Recommendation letters are due from the recommenders January 22, 2024.** In the application portal you will be asked to provide contact information for your recommenders — name, email address, and phone number — and we will send them a link to upload their letters.
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

First Book Grant applications require the following elements. After you have created your online profile, you will be prompted to provide the following:

1. **General information about your project.** Fill in the title of your project, the proposed amount in US dollars, and start and end dates. Then complete the following:
   
a. **Project core question.** In a few sentences (about 100 words/maximum 500 characters and spaces), describe the primary question you want to explore and why it is important to you, your community, and/or the church in North America.
   
b. **Project summary/abstract.** In approximately 200 words (maximum 2000 characters and spaces), give a brief overview of your project. Strong summaries are focused, well-articulated glimpses into your thinking that help our selection committee envision the project and your capacity to carry it out.
   
c. **Project snapshot.** In one sentence, provide an intriguing, quotable “snapshot” of your project for use on our website and in publicity materials.

2. **Project narrative essay.** Prepare an essay of about 1500 words (5-7 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font) that tells the story of your project. Using the framework below, share how you came to care about the topic you’re studying, why the topic is important to the North American church, how you plan to carry out the project, and why you should be the one to do so. Note that the Louisville Institute is particularly interested in projects that bridge church and academy. Include your name and page numbers on each page of the document, and upload to the application as a PDF.

   **In the essay, please include:**
   
a. The primary question you want to explore, and how you came to care about that question. Why does this project matter to you, your community, and the larger North American church?
   
b. The importance of your project, how it connects or bridges the academy and the church, and why you are well placed to carry it out. In other words, why should the Louisville Institute fund your project at this time? (continued)
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

In the essay, please include (continued from previous page):

c. The current status of the project and what work remains to be done. **If you are revising your dissertation for publication**, describe what additional research you plan to undertake, as well as other updates or rewriting that will be necessary. The selection committee will be looking to see how a grant will help you bring your project to completion. If you have a book proposal under revision or a book contract, include that information in your essay.

d. A comprehensive plan for how you will conduct your research. Include the following, as applicable to your project:
   - What research methods will you use, and why? (You don’t need to finalize every detail of your research plan for your application, but you do need to convey that you’ve thought through the "how" of your project and its planning.)
   - Who do you hope will be involved? How will you determine your partners/participants? How will you build those relationships? How will you compensate participants and partners?
   - How will you analyze the data you collect?
   - How will you share what you learn and discover? Who is the intended audience for your project? Who do you hope will benefit from it? If this is a book project, describe the kind of book it will be and steps you’ve taken toward publication.
   - What impact do you hope your project will have? What contribution will your project make to your field or the academy? How will your project be useful to theological or religious education, or to religious leaders or practitioners?

e. A timeline and schedule for the project, and how you intend to carry out the project within the timeline. Projects need to be conducted during the 2024-2025 academic year, or the 2025 calendar year. Please include in this timeline the semesters or terms you will be on academic or sabbatical leave for your project. **If you work at an institution that does not grant sabbaticals and/or if you are in a full-time, permanent teaching position that does not include sabbatical leave, you must contact us to discuss your eligibility before applying for this grant:**
   
   grants@louisville-institute.org

**Bibliography.** Compile a carefully-selected bibliography (2–3 pages, double-spaced) that identifies the major relevant literature and other seminal resources related to your project, and that demonstrates your developing expertise with the subject matter. Include your name and page numbers on each page of the document, and upload to the application as a PDF.
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

4 Budget plan. For your grant budget, you will need to submit one of the following:
   a. Salary/benefit replacement confirmation. If the total amount of your
      grant will be designated for salary/benefit replacement for a specified period
      of time and the grant will be made payable to your institution, a simple
      statement to this effect will suffice for your budget. See page 13.
   b. A budget proposal. If you are requesting funds for research materials,
      assistants, travel, or other resources beyond or in addition to salary/benefit
      replacement, you must provide a budget proposal that includes both a line-
      item budget and an explanatory budget narrative for your project. See page
      14.

5 Curriculum vitae or resume. Provide a current CV or resume (no more than 4
   pages) that includes:
   • your education with dates attended and degrees earned, starting with
     the most recent
   • employment starting with current/most recent
   • publications and/or presentations
   • professional affiliations
   • other information that will help the selection committee get to know
     you, such as academic or other service, church leadership, etc.
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Two letters of recommendation, due from recommenders on January 22. In the online application portal, you will be asked to provide contact information (name, email address, and phone number) for your recommenders, and they will be sent a link by email through which they can upload letters. As soon as you submit contact information, your recommender will automatically receive that email. Make sure to contact your recommenders in advance to explain the FBG and to share your project proposal.

a. Your first recommendation letter should come from a colleague within or outside your institution who can discuss:
   • your reliability and capacity to carry out the proposed project
   • how your previous work demonstrates skills needed to conduct this study and coordinate this grant
   • how the project bridges the North American church and academy.

b. Your second recommendation letter should come from someone who can assess the feasibility and significance of your project, specifically:
   • the viability and potential of your project and its plan
   • the project’s broader academic and/or ecclesial significance
   • the distinctiveness of this project in light of what others are doing or have already done
   • why this proposed project matters to the North American church and/or how it bridges the church and academy.

We will notify you via email when we receive the letters from your recommenders.

QUESTIONS?
Please email grants@louisville-institute.org.

APPLY ONLINE: WWW.LOUISVILLE-INSTITUTE.ORG
APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 15, 2024
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Letter of release, due from academic dean/department chair
January 22. This letter will confirm that if you receive a grant you will be released from teaching and academic responsibilities for the grant’s duration.

- The letter should come from an academic dean or department chair who can confirm your release. Applicants should be in touch with their deans/chairs in advance to explain the grant and the release requirement.
- Make sure to follow the sabbatical leave procedures for your institution and request/apply for appropriate leave time in accordance with the timeline of the grant. If you have already requested and/or received confirmation of sabbatical leave from your institution, this information and related dates should be included in the letter.
- In the application portal, you will be asked to provide contact information (name, email address, and phone number) for the appropriate person to provide the release letter. We will immediately email this contact with a link to submit the document online. We will also notify you via email when the letter is received. This letter must be submitted by January 22, 2024.

COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

You can edit all portions of your application until 11:59 p.m. EST January 15, 2024. Changes cannot be made after the application due date. Letters of recommendation and letters of release are due from the recommenders January 22, 2024. Late applications will not be accepted.

In the week following the application due date, LI staff will process the applications to prepare for the selection committee. We will follow up with you if your application is incomplete. We will also send you confirmation when we receive your letters of recommendation and your affirmation of support, and will email you when your application is complete.
FIRST BOOK GRANT BUDGETS

For your grant budget, you will need to submit one of the following:

a. **Salary/benefit replacement confirmation.** If the total amount of your grant will be designated for salary/benefit replacement for a specified period of time and the grant will be made payable to your institution, a simple statement to this effect will suffice for your budget. See below.

b. **A budget proposal.** If you are requesting funds for research materials, assistants, travel, or other resources beyond or in addition to salary/benefit replacement, you must provide a budget proposal that includes both a line-item budget and an explanatory budget narrative for your project. See page 14.

**SALARY/BENEFIT REPLACEMENT CONFIRMATION**

The First Book Grant is most often used for salary/benefit replacement for a specified period of time, and the grant made payable to the grantee’s Institution. For such grant proposals, simply upload a page in your application with a statement to that effect. For example:

*The total amount of this grant, $40,000, is to be made payable to [Name of institution] and used for salary/benefit replacement for Dr. [Name]’s research leave from January 1 through December 31, 2025.*

The grant or contract office at your institution may usually require that a percentage of your grant go to “indirect costs” or overhead to administer the grant. Please note that for First Book Grants for Scholars of Color, the Louisville Institute stipulates that the full grant amount must be used for the grantee’s salary/benefits and/or project costs. We do not allow the grantee’s institution to receive indirect costs for this grant. Please be in touch with your grant or contract office before submitting your grant proposal to alert them to this Louisville Institute stipulation.
PREPARING A BUDGET PROPOSAL

If you are requesting FBG funds for research materials or assistance, travel, or other resources instead of in addition to salary/benefit replacement, your budget proposal should designate the specifics of how the money will be spent.

There are two parts to your budget proposal:
- A line-item budget
- A budget narrative

In short, your line-item budget is a list of categories of expenses for your project and a dollar figure for each category. The budget narrative briefly explains each category and how it is relevant to the project. The line-item and budget narratives are described below. Most budget proposals are 2–3 pages total. Save budget documents as a single PDF with your name on each page.

BUDGET GUIDELINES

FBG funds can be used for:
- **Compensation** for research assistants, interviewees, focus group participants, consultants, and others who will work on the project with you
- **Tools** to facilitate your study, like database access, a recording device, survey or data software, transcription programs, etc.
- **Travel** directly related to your project and its investigation, such as to access archives, museums, or libraries; to interview participants or conduct focus groups or participant observation; or for experiences connected to your project (e.g., historical settings, site visits, etc.)
- **Resources** related to your learning, such as books, trainings, or consultations
- **Childcare** or other family support you need to undertake your project
- **Time away** from your regular job, such as a course buyout or salary replacement for unpaid time off

FBG funds cannot be used for:
- Your regular salary to continue your current job
- New programs or staff positions in your department
- Expenses in pursuit of a degree
- Tools for your everyday work, such as an office chair, desktop computer, or cell phone
COMMON BUDGET ITEMS

Below are examples of common budget items. This is not an exhaustive list, so please create a budget and categories that align with your project.

- **Administrative costs:** expenses directly related to performing the proposed grant project, such as supplies, printing, postage, Zoom or conference software, etc. Generally, such items can be grouped under one category in the line-item budget but should be explained individually in the budget narrative. However, any significant single expense should be listed as a separate line item.

- **Books and resources:** print, digital, and/or media materials that foster your learning. Specific titles do not need to be included in the budget proposal.

- **Participant compensation:** gift cards, stipends, meals, or other compensation for participants in your project, such as those being interviewed or completing a survey.

- **Travel expenses:** can include flights, mileage, public transit, ride shares, etc., as well as accommodations, food, and other likely expenses. Travel expenses should be based on your organization’s standard travel policies, including per diem amounts. Document your calculations and estimates, and explain in your narrative essay how the travel is intrinsic to the project. FBG funds should not be used for vacation travel or general tourism.

- **Personnel:**
  - **Salary replacement:** salary or wages used to compensate the grantee for unpaid time off to conduct the project.
  - **Fringe benefits:** the amount your organization charges for benefits such as health insurance and retirement savings. This is typically a percentage of the overall compensation amount. If rates are different for different individuals, please include a summary of these amounts in the narrative budget. Sample fringe benefits table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Table</th>
<th>Salary</th>
<th>Fringe Rate</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Director</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin. Assistant</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Assistant</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$13,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMMON BUDGET ITEMS

• **Contracted assistants or consultants**: compensation for transcription services, research assistance, etc. If you plan to hire project assistants or consultants, describe in your proposal the purpose, expected duration, and rate for the consultant’s work. When you hire consultants, initiate and retain for your files a contract that includes the following:
  o consultant’s name, address, and social security number
  o beginning and ending dates of engagement, and estimated number of consulting hours to complete the project
  o description of work to be performed, reports written, etc.
  o hourly rate and method of payment for work performed
  o description of any special arrangements such as hiring of secretarial/clerical assistance, renting of office space or equipment, overhead expenses, etc.
  o a termination statement noting time requirement and obligations for payment

• **Other miscellaneous costs**: items that are not easily included in another category, but may be necessary to conduct the project.

QUESTIONS?
Please email grants@louisville-institute.org.
LINE-ITEM BUDGET

Your line-item budget is a table of categories in which you anticipate money being spent for your project (see sample categories above), and the anticipated costs of each. The total of these line items should equal the amount you are requesting for the grant. If you are in Canada, you may put together your line-item budget and budget narrative in Canadian dollars, but please indicate the exchange rate and show that the final amount is equal to or less than US$40,000.

Create a table or spreadsheet that includes your proposed budget items. If grant funds will be spent over two years, include columns and amounts for each year, as well as the total amount for the two years combined. See sample budgets below.

**SAMPLE BUDGET #1: Applicant Name, Project Title, Proposed Budget**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personnel</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salary/benefits 2 semesters @ $14,889 per semester</td>
<td>$14,889</td>
<td>$14,889</td>
<td>$29,778</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Costs</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Books &amp; Reference Materials</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone, Zoom, mailing, copies, supplies</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel &amp; Lodging</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL REQUESTED** | $20,389 | $19,139 | $39,528

**QUESTIONS?**

Please email grants@louisville-institute.org.
# LINE-ITEM BUDGET

## SAMPLE BUDGET #2: Applicant Name, Project Title, Proposed Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Personnel</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salary/benefits for two semesters</td>
<td>$16,000</td>
<td>$16,000</td>
<td>$32,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transcription services (140 hrs @$10/hr)</td>
<td>$1,400</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. Equipment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Voice Recorder</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td></td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. Travel</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ground transportation, 500 miles @ $.655/mile</td>
<td>$328</td>
<td></td>
<td>$328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airfare to Denver, Atlanta, Dallas</td>
<td>$800</td>
<td>$800</td>
<td>$1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodging (8 nights)</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals (12 days @$75 per diem)</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>$900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4. Supplies</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing, materials, etc.</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5. Participant Compensation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 church leaders for interview @$25</td>
<td>$550</td>
<td></td>
<td>$550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6. Supplies</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books &amp; Reference Materials</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td></td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REQUESTED</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$39,728</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BUDGET NARRATIVE

The budget narrative is essentially a series of sentences or paragraphs that illustrate your budget proposal. The budget narrative gives explanations for the items in your budget and enables us to understand your proposal more fully. To create a budget narrative, list all the items in your line-item budget and provide a brief description of and rationale for each. Specifically include:

- the budget item
- how it helps accomplish the project
- how you calculated the amount requested

Budget narrative examples:

- **Item 1: Research Assistant, $1200.** In order to complete my project, I anticipate needing a research assistant for 60 hours, and we pay $20/hour.
- **Item 2: Participant compensation, $250.** I plan to conduct five 1-hour long interviews, and will provide $50 gift cards for each participant.

TAX CONSIDERATIONS

Because individual recipients of Louisville Institute grants may be liable for income taxes on funds awarded, grantees often find it more convenient to have their grants made payable to a tax-exempt nonprofit organization with a 501(c)(3) status. The Institute does not provide advice on tax matters; we advise grantees to consult their own tax advisors to determine the tax consequences of receiving grant funds.

QUESTIONS?
Please email grants@louisville-institute.org.
WHO WE ARE

Funded by the Religion Division of Lilly Endowment, the Louisville Institute’s mission is to bridge Church and academy through awarding grants and fellowships to those who lead and study North American religious institutions, practices, and movements, and thereby promoting scholarship that strengthens Church, academy, and society, and ultimately contributes to the flourishing of the Church.

- Grants
- Fellowships

The Institute’s Advisory Board shapes mission and policy, helps review and approve grant proposals, and evaluates initiatives and programs. Edwin Hernández (Executive Director, beginning June 1, 2023) Aimee Moiso (Associate Director), Jessica Bowman (Assistant Director of Programs), Keri Liechty (Assistant Director of Marketing & Communications) and Briana Zeitz (Administrative Coordinator) guide the Institute work on a daily basis.

The mission of the Religion Division of Lilly Endowment frames its work and grantmaking in terms of the following mission statement:

Our primary aim in religion is to deepen and enrich the religious lives of Christians in the United States, principally by supporting efforts that enhance the vitality of congregations. We value the broad diversity of Christian traditions and congregations today and endeavor to support them in a wide variety of contexts. We seek to ensure that all types of congregations have a steady stream of wise, faithful, diverse and well-prepared leaders. We work to strengthen theological schools as well as religious institutions and networks that nurture pastors and support the ministries of congregations. We support efforts that help Christians draw on the wisdom of their theological traditions as they strive to understand and respond to contemporary challenges and live their faith more fully. We are especially interested in efforts that nurture the religious lives of children, youth and young adults and share the beauty and vibrancy of Christian faith with a new generation.

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