

ATS requests proposals for *Moving Forward in Mission* grants

BY LISA KERN

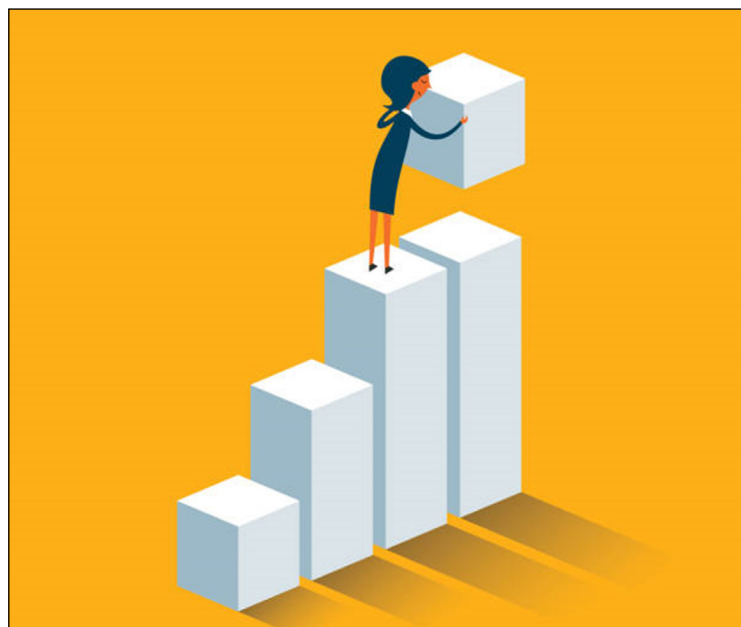
As part of its Organizational and Educational Models Project, *The Association of Theological Schools (ATS)* requests proposals from member schools in good standing for 12-month grants of up to \$25,000 to support them as they take their next steps to fulfill their missions and execute their strategic plans.

These grants are particularly designed for schools that did not receive a Phase 2 or Phase 3 grant as part of the Lilly Endowment Inc. Pathways for Tomorrow Initiative. As many as 50 grants will be awarded. The application deadline is Friday, April 21, 2023, and awards will be announced the week of May 22, 2023. Grant funds will be disbursed in July 2023.

Proposals may focus on educational models, organizational models, financial sustainability, developing or strengthening programs, faculty/staff development, or building institutional capacity. A portion of the grant funds may be used for personnel costs if needed to offset time given by faculty or staff to the project.

Preference will be given to proposals that: (1) are central to a school's mission, (2) help a school execute its strategic plan, and (3) contribute to the sustainability of the institution.

Grants may not be used to support programs that are not in compliance with the ATS Standards of Accreditation. If experimental status is required, the school must follow the appropriate procedures to receive permission before the grant can be approved. If a petition for an experiment is in process, a grant may be approved pending approval of the petition by the COA Board of Commissioners.



ATS expects the following from grant recipients: (1) send at least one representative to virtual gatherings of grantees to be held in spring 2023 and summer 2024 to discuss his or her school's work; (2) submit a report highlighting grant activities, what was learned through the project, how the grant furthered the strategic plans of the school, and plans for next steps in the school's strategic plan. Project reports will be due on July 31, 2024.

It is recommended that applicants gather all the required information listed in the proposal instructions before accessing the online proposal form.

Please email Jo Ann Deasy or Monica Laughery at ATS with any questions.



Lisa Kern is Manager of Member Engagement at The Association of Theological Schools in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.