**FUNDING APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

# Application Timeline

Ninety days minimum is needed to process and disburse grants under $20,000. Any request for funding a ministry with a start date of less than 90 days prior to the grant being submitted will not be considered.

**Funding Criteria**

The Asian American Language Ministry (AALM) was established by the General Conference of The United Methodist Church to strengthen the ministries of Asian American communities.

Funding is provided annually for projects and programs that meet the following goals as mandated by the General Conference and the priorities established by the AALM Committee:

* Leadership Development
* Church Growth
* Ministry with the Poor
* Language Resources and Materials

Grants are provided as seed money or matching funds only. All grants must be endorsed by the Caucus Leadership and may require annual conference communication.

Church growth grants are normally made on an annual basis. A multi-year project can reapply each year for up to 3 years with: a new application, an evaluation report, and a recommendation from the annual conference. Projects/programs with the strongest potential for viability and sustainability will be given priority. At this time, AALM will not fund building projects or building repairs.

# Objective Priorities

Under the goals to reach the General Conference Mandates, the Asian American Language Ministries Plan has identified additional objectives to prioritize our grant-funding and programmatic work on behalf of the church. The following objectives help us focus on programs and ministries that contribute to increasing Asian American ministries that are culturally relevant and sensitive to the Asian American communities in the US.

## FOCUS 1: Leadership Development

* 1. – Training and recruiting clergy and lay leadership by identifying, recruiting and cultivating people who can offer pastoral leadership and community organization.
	2. – Develop youth leadership by identifying, recruiting and encouraging young leaders on a regular basis.
	3. – Develop young adult leadership by reaching out to them with programs and mission opportunities that are aimed at encouraging them to contribute to the church.

## FOCUS 2: Church Growth

* 1. – Develop new and existing language ministries through partnering with annual conferences to see the larger picture and realize the importance of ministries among Asian Americans to assist with resources (financial, human, technical, etc.) for a fruitful and productive ministry.
	2. – Develop multi-racial, next generation ministries by directly assisting in the development of several new intentional multi-racial/cultural, next generation church starts.

## FOCUS 3: Ministry with the Vulnerable and Those in Need

3.1 - Develop community outreach ministries by partnering with districts and annual conferences in responding to ministry with the poor in their respected Asian American community.

## FOCUS 4: Language Resources and Materials

4.1 – Develop relevant resources, culturally sensitive written materials and audio-visual resources that are needed for particular Asian language groups.

# Funding Process

1. Review and approval process

All complete applications submitted to the AALM office are reviewed and approved by the AALM Funding Review Committee.

Grants are approved and affirmed monthly. **Total grant approval time may take 60-90 days.**

1. Evaluation process

All AALM grant recipients are required to submit an evaluation report to the AALM office either at the end of the program, or within 1 year. Program grants over $20,000 are required to participate in a site visit by AALM staff in addition to the required written evaluation.