



Foundation for the Diocese of Helena FAITH IN ACTION GRANTS *Youth Ministry Scholarship Guidelines*

The Foundation will help our parishes begin to grow youth scholarship funds to help pay for youth ministerial experiences within the Diocese of Helena. This is a new program from the Foundation to help our parishes build financial resources for youth formation.

Youth Scholarship Track Policies

Types of Funds Awarded

This grant is meant to start, or help subsidize an already existing parish youth ministry scholarship fund that provides scholarships to youth for ministerial experiences sponsored within our Diocese, including:

- Legendary Lodge Camps
- Justice Outreach Project
- Ski Retreat
- Junior High Rally
- National Catholic Youth Conference
- Awakening Retreats
- Seek Catholic Conference
- Eucharistic Congress
- CYC Board
- CYC Convention

Foundation Mission Statement

The Foundation serves and strengthens the people, parishes, ministries, and apostolic mission of the Diocese of Helena.

What the Scholarships **DO NOT support:**

- Capital improvements/repairs
- Catechetical Materials
- Ongoing salary support
- Tuition assistance for students at Catholic Schools
- The Foundation will not make grants to other foundations or to entities not identified and listed in the directory of the Diocese of Helena.

All grants will be vetted and awarded at the committee's discretion based on the funds policies and its mission.

A parish/ministry may submit more than one grant application for \$5,000 during a cycle and more than one grant may be approved for a single entity; however, the total amount awarded to an entity will not exceed \$7,500* for all grant tracks.

Reviewing Proposals

Step 1: The Outreach Committee of the Foundation's Board of Trustees prayerfully considers grant applications and recommends distributions of unrestricted funds in accordance with established

policies and procedures. Priority is given to Parishes looking to create a lasting youth ministry scholarship fund that will continue to actively help young people encounter God.

Step 2: The Board of Trustees gives final approval to grants based on funds available and the priorities of the Foundation. Priority may be given to projects where the Foundation is not the only means of support for the project. Therefore, it is important applicants include in their application the amount raised to date and in-kind support obtained. For applicants requesting 100% of the cost of their project, and for applicants requesting less than \$1,000, the Foundation may request additional information before their application is considered.

The following factors are considered in reviewing proposals:

- ✓ Is this a youth ministry experience aligned with youth ministry in our Diocese?
- ✓ Is the parish committed to establishing long term funding to help defray costs of ministerial experiences for our youth?
- ✓ Will funding this project create more long-term funding to bring young people to Christ?
- ✓ Does this project align with the priorities of the Foundation's mission?
- ✓ Can the results be clearly defined and measured?
- ✓ Will this project pave the way for future evangelization efforts?
- ✓ Will additional funding be needed beyond the grant period and does the applicant have the capacity to obtain it?
- ✓ Does the Foundation have the funds?

Grant Priorities

In making these scholarship fund grants, the Foundation will focus on these goals:

1. To help support the evangelization efforts of the youth within the parishes/missions and ministries of the Diocese of Helena.
2. To help build strong, supportive communities that reflect gospel values.
3. To sustain and spread Catholic faith tradition and values through effective programs in local parishes, missions, ministries and schools.
4. To advance the work of the Church by developing opportunities for our youth throughout the Diocese.

Application Procedures

Submit completed application form and required narrative to
Faith in Action Grant Program
Foundation for the Diocese of Helena
PO Box 1729
Helena, MT 59624.

Envelope must be postmarked no later than June 20, 2025. Late, incomplete, or emailed applications will not be accepted. **Online applications (FDOH.org/grants) must be submitted before midnight on June 20th.**

IMPORTANT: *Applications from a parish must be signed by the pastor or parish administrator.*

Proposals will receive final approval in early August. All applicants will receive written notification of the Board's action with grant funding released shortly thereafter. Monies will not be released until after the signed grant agreement is returned.

Applicants receiving grant funding will be required to:

1. Sign the grant agreement.
2. Provide a report to the Foundation listing the number of youths who received financial assistance and what ministry experiences they attended. The schedule of reporting will be communicated to the parish with the grant agreement.

If you have any questions, please contact Margaret Herriges at the Foundation for the Diocese of Helena: mherriges@dohmt.org, (406) 389-7050.

