



DREAMer Fund

Guidelines

1. This special non-budget fund was established in 2012. The purpose is to help undocumented persons who qualify for the Dream Act deferment to pay for the fee that is required.
2. The Executive Board's Director of Transformative Peacemaking will supervise the operation of the fund, joined by a MC USA Dream Act Administrative Committee to be composed of the Associate Executive Director of Finance and Convention Planning and Executive Leadership finance staff. Persons eligible to receive help from the special fund include:
 - a. All undocumented immigrant young adults that are members of a congregation in Mennonite Church USA and meet the criteria for the Dream Act 2012 qualifications as listed below:
 - The applicant must have entered the United States prior to their 16th birthday.
 - The applicant must have been in the United States for at least 5 consecutive years prior to the bill passing.
 - The applicant must have graduated from High School, obtained a GED or currently be enrolled in College, a Trade School or another type of Institution for Higher Learning.
 - The applicant must currently be 30 and under at the time they are applying.
 - The applicant must have good moral standing (no previous or current convictions).
3. Funds will be allocated as follows.
 - The total amount that may be distributed from this fund per person is 2/3 of the Dream Act fee, up to but not exceeding \$300.00.
 - The remaining one third of the Dream Act fee is expected to be paid by the congregation and/or applicant.
 - No more than three students per congregation will be awarded funds unless additional contributions are made to the DREAMer Fund, at which time congregations will be notified.
4. Mennonite Church USA will provide staff time for the administration of the DREAMer Fund and fundraising. These administrative costs will be deducted from the total contributions received each year.
5. Recipients and their congregations will be expected to promote this fund by setting aside a Sunday once a year for a special offering toward this fund.
6. Fund Distribution Dates:
 - a. Request for funds should be received by September 30; January 30; March 30; June 30.
 - b. Funds will be distributed between 4-6 weeks from date of deadline.
9. Applicants requesting funds from the DREAMer Fund will be asked to sign a covenant committing to repay the amount they received once they have finished their education and/or are working.

10. If the need for the DREAMer Fund should cease and undistributed funds remain, the remaining resource will be disbursed by determination of the MC USA Administrative Dream Act Committee for use in harmony with the purpose of this fund.
11. Changes to these guidelines will be the responsibility of the Director of Transformative Peacemaking .

Please send contributions to:

Mennonite Church USA Executive Board
DREAMer Deferment Fund
718 N Main Street, Newton, KS 67114
Ph. 574-523-3041, Info@MennoniteUSA.org

For more information, contact:

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