

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Peer Learning Groups

Purpose: CBF Peer Learning Groups exist to encourage and facilitate “excellence in ministry.” A PLG provides a safe space for ministers to gather for learning, fellowship, and community.

Guidelines:

1. The convener serves as a volunteer. The convener must be related to CBF. The PLG, however, can be ecumenical.
2. At least five participants/members must be in the group in order to qualify to apply for an annually renewable \$500 grant here: www.cbf.net/peer-learning-groups. Information needed to apply, as well as the online application, can be found at the bottom of the webpage.
3. There is no set expectation for when and/or how long PLG’s meet. Some meet weekly. Others meet monthly. Some even meet quarterly. A few groups meet annually for a week-long retreat to plan preaching, etc. Many groups meet only during the school year. Some meet in person, others virtually, and others meet in a hybrid setting. Some groups only meet in person at CBF General Assembly or other CBF events.
4. To qualify for the grant, there must be a learning component included in the grant proposal (remember it is about “excellence in ministry”). Attending a retreat together, purchasing, reading, and discussing a book together, attending a conference together, and purchasing meals for participants while meeting are all examples of appropriate ways to invest the grant in the lives and ministries of participants.
5. Grant monies must be sent to a church designated fund. CBF does not send funds to individuals. When funds are expended, the church reimburses for the expense.
6. Funds cannot be utilized to pay the convener or to pay for participants’ travel expenses.

If you have additional questions, one of the regional PLG directors (contact information can be found on the website link mentioned above) will be glad to walk you through the application process. Be creative! PLGs belong to the participants!