

**NORTHWEST ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.  
APPLICATION COVER PAGE**

Applicant: Ecclesia College  
 Address: 9653 Nations Drive  
 City/Zip: Springdale, AR 72762  
 Phone: 479-248-7236  
 Fax: 479-248-1455  
 Email: oparis3@ecollege.edu  
 County: Benton / Washington

Applicant Preparer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Summary:** 25.5 acre property acquisition to provide much needed additional student residence and work learning facilities.

**Type of Applicant:**

City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_  Non-profit (Attach 501 C3)  
 Other Specify: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Joint\* List Joint Members : \_\_\_\_\_

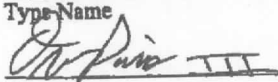
*\*Joint Applicants must be accompanied by an agreement signed by all members applying for funding in the application*

State Senator(s) / District(s): Jon Woods / District 7  
 State Representative(s) / District(s): Micah Neal / District 89

**Budget:**

Amount Requesting \$200,000.00  
 Other Funding (specified in budget) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Project Budget \$500,000.00

**Authorized Representative:** The signature indicates that I have been authorized to submit an application requesting funding for the proposed project and to the best of my knowledge and belief, all data contained in this application is true and correct. If the application is approved for funding, I am authorized to sign any applicable documents on behalf of the applicant.

Oren Paris III  
 Type Name  
  
 Signature

President, Ecclesia College  
 Title  
12/05/14  
 Date

**Brief Description of Ecclesia College:**

Ecclesia College was founded in 1975 in Springdale, Arkansas. The college is nationally accredited through ABHE and state certified by ADHE. Ecclesia College is a four-year, private, liberal arts college built on the innovative and highly effective work college model where every student's education is rooted in the development of good character and the formation of a strong work ethic. EC graduates enter the workforce with less than \$6000 in total debt, and their consistently strong work ethic makes them more dependable and sought after by employers.

**Need and Nature of the Project:**

To purchase a 25.5-acre parcel of land with an existing student residence hall and shop facility adjacent to the existing Ecclesia College property necessary to provide critically needed space for incoming resident students beginning fall of 2014 as well as development of additional work learning assignments. This property expansion is critical to providing increased educational opportunities to students enrolling in Arkansas' only federally recognized Work College.

**Improvements to the Local Area:**

The completion of this project will create opportunities for many more Arkansas students to participate in a work college environment while earning a valuable education and being engaged in local community service projects throughout Arkansas. The economic development of Arkansas is intrinsically linked with higher education graduation rates. This project, for which funding is requested, will have a dynamic and strategic impact on the economic climate of our area through an increased number of low-debt graduates which will provide local employers with a highly trained and employable workforce while simultaneously instilling in the students the desire to give back to their communities. The completion of this land and residence hall acquisition project will create opportunities for increased student enrollment, which will add nearly two thousand hours of community service here in Arkansas over the next academic year.

**Authorized Representative:**

The person authorized to make representations for and bind Ecclesia College is:

*Oren Paris III, President of Ecclesia College*

*9653 Nations Drive, Springdale, AR 72762*

*(479) 248-7236*

**From:** Mike Novak <[development@ecollege.edu](mailto:development@ecollege.edu)>  
**Subject:** cover letter NWAEDD  
**Date:** December 11, 2014 2:10:29 PM CST  
**To:** Oren Paris <[oparis3@ecollege.edu](mailto:oparis3@ecollege.edu)>

To whom it may concern:

This letter is intended to provide further explanation for the Ecclesia College application for GIF.

Ecclesia College is one of only seven federally recognized work-learning colleges in the United States. The closest one that you might be most familiar with is College of the Ozarks near Branson, MO.


One of the primary obstacles for students being able to attend Ecclesia College is our lack of residence hall and classroom space. We literally have run out of places to house and educate additional students in our current facilities. We have experienced rapid growth in the size of our student body over the past ten years since receiving accreditation and we are now facing a potential crisis beginning in fall of 2015 with an anticipated record enrollment that will require additional housing and classroom facilities.

Over the past year we have developed a strategic solution to facilitate our projected growth. Our plan included the acquisition of four large homes nearby our campus. Each home would be renovated and converted into residence halls necessary to increasing our ability to house additional full-time students.

The first of the four housing renovations is nearing completion as we look toward the upcoming fall semester. Several Arkansas House and Senate members helped us with this project through GIF requests. The property included a large house and 23.25 acres adjacent to the main Ecclesia College campus. The cost of this property totaled \$565,000.

The second property we are currently requesting funding for is a 25.5 acre piece of property with a large home, a 2400 sq. ft. shop, a barn and other storage buildings. The total cost of this project is \$500,000. This acquisition includes a large home, which will provide much needed additional residence space to the college, while the peripheral buildings can be utilized for dairy and agriculture industries of our work program in which each enrolled student participates fifteen hours per week.

We are grateful for all the financial support on the first house that will be used for student housing this fall. The need for additional student housing is almost unending. The demand for attending work colleges is high with not nearly enough available student housing to accept all the applicants we are expecting for the fall 2015 semester beginning in August.

 **Ecclesia College**

Oren Paris III  
President  
Ecclesia College  
479.248.7236  
[oparis3@ecollege.edu](mailto:oparis3@ecollege.edu)  
[www.ecollege.edu](http://www.ecollege.edu)





NORTHWEST ARKANSAS  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.

NWAEDD PLAZA  
818 Highway 62-65-412 North • P.O. Box 190  
Harrison, Arkansas 72602-0190  
(870) 741-5404

December 19, 2014

Mr. Oren Paris  
President  
Ecclesia College  
9653 Nations Drive  
Springdale, Arkansas 72762

Mr. Paris:

The Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District (NWAEDD) is pleased to notify you it has approved a General Improvement Fund (GIF) grant to the Ecclesia College. NWAEDD is funding the GIF project in the amount of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars and No/100's (\$200,000.00).

The GIF grant is a community development grant to Ecclesia College. The project is to help for property acquisition to provide additional residence and work learning facilities.

The funds were appropriated to NWAEDD for the GIF program through Acts supported by your Senator Jon Woods from Northwest Arkansas. We wish to thank all the Northwest Arkansas Legislator's for their support and enabling NWAEDD to serve Arkansas and its citizens.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly if I can be of assistance or provide any information.

Sincerely,

Joe Willis  
Executive Director

Cc: The Honorable Jon Woods, Arkansas Senate District 7

Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District, Inc.  
General Improvement Fund Grant Program  
Grant Agreement

Grantee: ECCLESIA COLLEGE

Grant #: 324-07-89-12-14

Grant Amount: \$ 200,000.00

Purpose: Improvements

GRANTOR

Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District, Inc.  
P.O. Box 190  
Harrison, AR 72602-0190  
Phone: 870-741-5404

GRANTEE

Ecclesia College  
9653 Nations Drive  
Springdale, Arkansas 72762  
Phone: 479-248-7236

1. PURPOSE

This Agreement is entered into by Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District, Inc. (NWAEDD), herein referred to as Grantor, and Ecclesia College, herein referred to as Grantee. The Grantor has received General Improvement Funds from the Arkansas General Assembly to be utilized to assist local public governmental jurisdictions and/or non-profit organizations to plan, develop, promote and/or implement economic and community development projects/activities designed to improve the economic, community and/or social well-being of the citizens of Arkansas. Projects should complement the Economic and Community Development Goals and Objects of the State of Arkansas. The Grantee agrees to implement and complete a General Improvement Fund Program project in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

2. LEGAL AUTHORITY

By signing this Agreement the Grantee certifies that it possesses legal authority to accept grant funds under the General Improvement Fund program. The act of signing will also certify that the Grantee will comply with all parts of this Agreement, and the Grantee accepts full legal responsibility for properly implementing the project described in the original grant application documents and agrees to expend funds in accordance with the original grant application form.

3. FINANCIAL MANGEMENT AND ACCOUNTING

The Grantee will establish and/or maintain a financial management and accounting system, which conforms to generally accepted accounting principles and complies with requirements of the State Purchasing Law, the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, and other applicable fiscal control laws of the State of this State and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration shall be observed in connection with the utilization of said grant funds.

4. RECORDKEEPING

Grantee will maintain records of all project expenditures on file for a period of three years or until the Grantee's audit for the period in which grant funds were utilized have been conducted. The Grantor and duly authorized officials of the State will have full access and the right to examine any pertinent documents of the Grantee or persons or organizations with which the Grantee may contract, which involve transactions related to this Agreement.

**5. REPORTING**

The Grantee agrees to provide Grantor with a final close-out report within sixty (60) days of project completion on which grant funds have been utilized, (See Attachment "A" - Closeout Form).

**6. INDEMNIFICATION**

The Grantee agrees to follow all local and state laws and regulations. Furthermore, the Grantee agrees to hold harmless the Grantor from any and all claims, suits and actions arising from any act of omission, noncompliance or misuse of grant funds by the Grantee or any employee or agent in the performance of this Grant Agreement.

**7. METHOD OF PAYMENT**

The Grantor shall make payment of authorized grant funds upon proper execution of this Grant Agreement by the Grantee. The Grantor reserves the right to determine the most appropriate distribution of payments, based upon the nature of the approved project. In no event will the total amount of grant funds to the Grantee for allowable expenses incurred in relation to the project exceed the amount noted on Page 1 of this Agreement as the Grant Amount.

**8. MODIFICATIONS**

The Grant Agreement may be modified, at the discretion of the Grantor, only with prior written notification from the Grantee. The Grantee will be notified, in writing, of the decision of the Grantor.

Approved for the Grantor

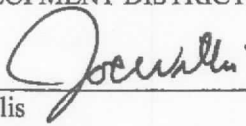
Approved for the Grantee

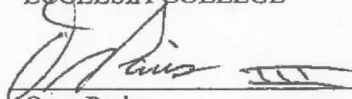
BY:

BY:

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.

ECCLESIA COLLEGE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Willis  
Executive Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oren Paris  
President

12/18/14  
Date

12-19-14  
Date

Payee Ecclesia College  
Vendor ID Ecclesia Colleg

Account #:

1572  
12/18/2014

Invoice	Description	Discount	Amount
1002	General Improvement Grant	\$0.00	\$200,000.00

General Improvement Grant Total : \$0.00 \$200,000.00

**NORTHWEST ARKANSAS ECONOMIC**

DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC  
LEGISLATIVE FUNDS  
818 HWY 62-85-412 N  
HARRISON, AR 72601

ARVEST BANK  
ARVEST.COM

1572  
81-87-829

\*\*\*\*Two Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars

DATE  
12/18/2014

AMOUNT  
\$200,000.00

PAY  
TO THE  
ORDER  
OF

Ecclesia College  
9653 Nations Drive  
Springdale, AR 72762

*Bill Witty II*  
*Joewillis*

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00 1 14886 1 ⑈

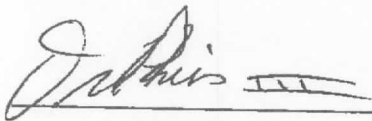


**Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District, Inc.  
General Improvement Fund Project Closeout**

I do hereby affirm that all funds awarded to this organization under the Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District's General Improvement Fund Program were spent strictly in accordance with the submitted and approved proposed project.

I understand that any monies not spent or not spent in accordance with the approved budget are to be repaid to NWAEDD.

I also affirm that the approved project has been completed and all payments have been made in full. As such, I am officially requesting the formal closure of this grant.



Oren Paris  
President

12-19-14

Date

Ecclesia College

Grant Number: 324-07-89-12-14

Notary Seal:

Internal Revenue Service

District  
Director

Ecclesia, Inc  
P.O. Box 7  
Elm Springs, AR. 72728

Department of the Treasury

1100 Commerce St., Dallas, Texas 75242

Person to Contact:

EOMF Tax Examiner

Telephone Number.

(214) 767-1155

Folder Reply to:

RM:CSB:306:EO

Date: Nov. 29, 1983

EIN: 71-0477536

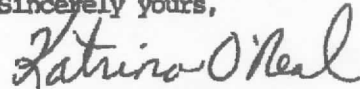
• Gentlemen:

Our Records show that Ecclesia, Inc.  
is exempt from Federal Income Tax under section  
501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. This exemption was granted  
March 1977 and remains in full force and effect.

We have classified your organization as one that is not a private  
foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Internal Revenue  
Code because you are an organization described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)

If we may be of further assistance, please contact the person whose name  
and telephone number are shown above.

Sincerely yours,



Katrina O'Neal  
EOMF Tax Examiner