

Act relating to allocations to religious communities

Section 1. Religious communities that do not violate the law or normal standards of decency are entitled to an annual grant from the Treasury.

The grant shall be used for purposes related to the activities of the religious community.

Section 2. The size of the grant shall be approximately proportionate to the amount budgeted by the state for the Church of Norway and shall be calculated on the basis of the number of members of the religious community.

Section 3. All religious communities that receive state grants may claim every year corresponding grants from municipalities in which a member of the religious community lives. This grant is calculated on the basis of the budgeted outlay of the municipality to the Church of Norway.

The religious community may appeal decisions concerning the grants to the Ministry.¹

Section 4. Public expenses applicable to all citizens shall not be included in the calculation of the grant pursuant to sections 2 and 3.

The Ministry may issue further regulations concerning calculation and payment.

Accounts shall be submitted for grants received.

Section 5. Grants may only be claimed for members who are Norwegian nationals or who are resident in the realm and who do not at the same time belong to the Church of Norway or any other religious community that receives a grant pursuant to this Act or to Act of 13 June 1969 No. 25 relating to religious communities.

The Ministry may issue regulations concerning the number of members a religious community must have in order to be eligible for a grant, the keeping of lists of members, and certification by a lawyer or auditor.

Section 6. The King decides whether a community fulfils the conditions for receiving a grant.

Section 7. This Act enters into force as from the date decided by the King.²

¹ The Ministry of Education, Research and Church Affairs.

² As from 14 May 1982, with effect from the calendar year 1982.