Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why should a mission diocese consider investing in the Mission Diocese Fund?
   • The Mission Diocese Fund, LLC (the Fund) provides a mission diocese the opportunity to access an institutional investing strategy in compliance with the USCCB Socially Responsible Investing Guidelines to help build greater capacity for long-term financial stability and viability. The diversification of the fund’s investments are designed to provide the stability that most mission dioceses desire while producing reasonable long-term results. The Fund provides access to approximately thirty world-class investment managers that would otherwise be closed or inaccessible to smaller investors such as mission dioceses. The Fund is managed by a group of seasoned and knowledgeable professionals at Catholic Extension and uses Cambridge Associates as its investment consultant. All fees are capped at 55 basis points as explained in Question 8.

2. Who is eligible to subscribe to the Fund?
   • The fund is available to any diocese that is currently defined as a Mission Diocese or any charitable affiliates under the supervision of such Mission Diocese and must be exempt from Federal Income taxation under Code Section 501:
     a. because it is described in Code Section 501(c)(3), and
     b. described in either Code Section 509(a)(1) or Code Section 509(c)(2). Supporting organizations that can be described under Code Section 509(a)(3) are not eligible.

3. How do we invest in the Fund?
   • Contact: Tom Riordan, 831-645-2827, triordan@catholicextension.org, or Kevin McGowan, 312-795-5133, kmcgowan@catholicextension.org.

4. When are contributions accepted?
   • Contributions are accepted for investments at the beginning of each calendar quarter. A minimum 15 days notice is requested before the first day of each quarter. Funds are to be received at least 3 business days before the end of a quarter.

5. Can sub-accounts be established?
   • A member can have multiple sub accounts. A minimum balance of $10,000 per sub-account is requested. The manager reserves the right to assess an incremental charge for more than (10) sub-accounts.
Frequently Asked Questions

6. Can regular distributions be taken?
   - Members may elect to have planned distributions (i.e. spend rule) taken on quarterly, semi-annual or annual basis. Since these are long term assets, we ask that regular planned distributions not exceed 5% of total investments of the account balance each year.

7. Can I take other withdrawals?
   - Unplanned withdrawals can be taken on a quarterly basis and we ask for a 75 day advance notice to the Manager. Funds are transferred within 5 business days after the end of the quarter. There are no-lock up or exit restrictions.

8. What expenses will the fund incur?
   - The Manager, in furtherance of its charitable and religious mission, will not charge any management fee or receive any other compensation for its services. The fund shall bear all costs and expenses incurred in its operations, including, but not limited to, expenses associated with the holding, purchase, sale or exchange of Securities, brokerage fees, legal fees, audit and accounting fees, advisory fees relating to investments or proposed investments, and fees incurred in connection with the maintenance of bank and/or custodian account.
   - The Manager, to emphasize that this represents a service from Catholic Extension to the Mission Dioceses, makes a quarterly contribution to its members to limit the “all-in” expenses of the fund to 55 basis points.

9. How is the Mission Diocese Fund managed?
   - The Manager, the Board of Governors for Catholic Extension has delegated the oversight of the Fund to their Investment Committee, who may consult with the Chancellor of Catholic Extension (the Archbishop of Chicago) from time to time. The Investment Committee sets investing policies and guidelines regarding asset classes, asset allocation ranges and prohibited investments.
   - The Manager uses the services of an Investment Consultant (Cambridge Associates) to advise on the selection of portfolio managers, asset allocation and other investment research functions.

10. How does the Mission Diocese Fund meet the Socially Responsible Investment guidelines?
    - The Mission Diocese Fund diligently follows the USCCB Socially Responsible Investing guidelines using screened lists provided by MSCI.
Frequently Asked Questions

11. How are the Member’s interest represented?
   - Catholic Extension and the Investment Committee encourages input from Diocesan Boards and Investment Committees because we believe good ideas and approaches can come from anywhere and can benefit all participants. Tom Riordan recently joined Catholic Extension to be the primary contact for the Mission Diocese Fund. He was involved in the formation and has been actively engaged since the Fund’s inception. He is available to hear any ideas and answer questions that may arise from the Member or representatives from the diocese. Tom is the primary communication link for each Member with the Investment Committee and with Cambridge Associates.