



## FINANCIAL PLANNING

### **FUNDING LOGOS**

*(excerpted from LOGOS Toolkit: LOGOS Administration)*

Start-up costs for LOGOS include, but are not limited to training, dishes and other supplies for serving a family-style meal, recreation equipment, and worship arts resources.

Consider the source for funding start-up costs. Will there be money set aside from your church budget to launch LOGOS? Is it possible to find "seed money" from supportive members of the congregation or some groups in the church? Does your denomination provide funding for faith formation initiatives in local churches? Are there community grants that you may qualify for, particularly for an at-risk or high-needs area?

Some on-going costs for LOGOS include training, Bible study curriculum and food. The modest tuition for each student to enroll in LOGOS should cover curriculum, food and other regularly-used resources. LOGOS training and a Church Partnership may be included in the church's operating budget or funded by generous givers in the congregation. When a church underwrites training costs, the whole church commits to the sustainability of LOGOS.

The most effective way to finance LOGOS is through a combination of sources, with parents taking the lead. Parents who accept financial responsibility for their own youth and children's participation will more likely assure the student's attendance and the parent's participation.

*Scholarships for families who need assistance should always be offered, and can usually be funded by those in the church who believe in LOGOS and have no children to participate. Of course, names of scholarship recipients are known only to the necessary few, such as the clergy and the LOGOS Director.*

It is responsible stewardship to carefully consider all possible costs and to decide, with the Christian Education Committee, which costs will be handled by the LOGOS budget and which ones will be handled through the church operating budget and other means. Clear communication with parents and church staff regarding the budgeting of LOGOS is very important.

If financing LOGOS is a challenge, it may be necessary to subsidize the costs with outside funding. For additional ideas on funding LOGOS, call GenOn Ministries at 877.937.2572.

**PER PERSON FEES**

Fees vary for each church. Generally, the fee for each participant is expected to cover the costs of meals, curriculum and supplies. Other expenses may need to be included, depending on what can or cannot be covered by the Christian Education budget and Music budget of the church.

Basic costs per participate include:

Meal cost (usually \$3.00-\$4.00 per meal) x # weeks	=	_____
Bible study curriculum and resources	=	_____
Recreation resources	=	_____
Other expenses	=	_____
TOTAL	=	_____

Many churches set a maximum fee per family.

Fees should be paid at registration. Many churches offer a payment plan over the first 2 months of LOGOS. It is not good wisdom to collect fees weekly throughout the year. There are several benefits to paying in full at a certain time.

1. There are fewer dropouts. The commitment is for the entire school year, and payment has been made for the entire year.
2. Advantage can be taken of bulk sales, discounts and reduced prices in purchasing the year's food supplies.
3. More efficient planning can be done because it is certain how much money is available for the entire year.
4. It takes less administrative work than taking money each term.

The following payment plan could be offered:

Deposit at registration	One third
Due in October	One third
Due in November	Balance

**TRAINING COSTS**

A church starting LOGOS will train as many people as possible at a LOGOS Encounter. Shared leadership is an important aspect of the sustainability of LOGOS and having more people learn and understand the “why” behind the “what” of LOGOS is critical. Therefore, continued attendance at LOGOS Encounters and other GenOn Ministries training is crucial to an effective LOGOS ministry.

Find LOGOS training rates and complete information on attending and/or hosting a LOGOS Encounter at [www.genonministries.org/pages/logos-training](http://www.genonministries.org/pages/logos-training) or call GenOn Ministries (877-937-2572).

## **BIBLE STUDY CURRICULUM**

Though a church chooses their own curriculum for Bible study, GenOn Ministries highly recommends Faith for Life for grades K-8, which was created specifically for LOGOS. Prices and other details are available at <http://www.genonministries.org/collections/new-faith-for-life-bible-study> and [www.genonministries.org/collections/faith-for-life-curriculum](http://www.genonministries.org/collections/faith-for-life-curriculum). Prices and details for high school can be found at [www.genonministries.org/collections/high-school-bible-study](http://www.genonministries.org/collections/high-school-bible-study).

## **OTHER COSTS**

Other expenses to be considered in the LOGOS budget, covered by special gifts or by the church budget:

- Awards, materials for recognition of service and participation
- Teacher supplies
- Music
- Drama supplies
- Kitchen and Family Time needs (i.e. tablecloths, serving dishes, decorations, etc.)
- Table Parent meals (The Leadership Team will set policies for paying for meals for Table Parents and other adults who are serving in LOGOS. Will teachers, leaders and helpers pay for their dinner each night or each semester, or will this expense be absorbed by the LOGOS budget? If it is absorbed, how is this expense covered? Often Table Parents pay a set fee for their meals at the beginning of the year. Some churches provide a basket for contributions.)

## **FEE FOR USE**

There is no fee charged by GenOn Ministries to have a LOGOS ministry. However, becoming a Partner Church is encouraged to help sustain GenOn's mission and assure ongoing support and the development of new resources. Partner Churches...

- Have an active LOGOS ministry
- Make regular donations to GenOn Ministries (any amount at any time during a calendar year)
- Share enthusiasm for LOGOS with others

Details are at [www.genonministries.org/pages/supporting-genon-new-partnerships](http://www.genonministries.org/pages/supporting-genon-new-partnerships). Some churches make this donation from their LOGOS budget, others from the Christian Education or Missions Committee funds, and others through special collections/fund-raisers. As a non-profit organization, we depend on individuals and churches to help fund our continued work and keep our resource and training costs affordable.

## RECEIPT OF GIFTS

Be assertive in accountability with gifts for LOGOS are received. In addition to a letter of thanks, follow up with another letter at a later time telling how the gifts were used.

One church LOGOS director sent a letter at the end of the year that began:

*LOGOS Stockholder's Report:*

*Your investment in the young people of \_\_\_\_\_ Church has paid great dividends and it is a delight to report the good news to you.*

Following this opening statement was a report of the new equipment and materials purchased with the money as well as news of how the lives of persons in LOGOS, including adults as well as young people without using names of course, were being positively affected.)

*As you have been generous in response to the Lord's work in the lives of the youth and children of this church, we pledge to you our faithfulness in stewardship of your investment.*

Several recipients sent a note of appreciation for the letter and enclosed further contributions. Others sent checks and asked to be added to the list of Stockholders. Stockholder's Reports were sent twice a year.

Be creative about finding your own way of being accountable to persons that help provide those wonderful extras for young people.