



Dear Prospective 5280 Fellow,

Thanks for considering the 5280 Fellowship. I think this nine-month experience will be transformative for you, both professionally and spiritually.

Whereas many masters degrees cost \$40,000-120,000, and two classes (the rough equivalent to this Fellowship) would cost \$4,000+, the tuition for the 5280 Fellowship is a comparatively affordable \$2,500 for a rigorous program. Still, affording educational experiences like this can be a challenge for many.

Here are a few ideas on ways to cover tuition for the Fellowship:

Family & Friends

Often family and friends are your best advocates. After making a list of people who may be willing to invest in your spiritual and professional formation, you could:

- Send them a fundraising letter
- Create a crowdfunding campaign through a website like Giving Zone (GivingZone.com) or Go Fund Me (GoFundMe.com) to allow supporters to easily give online

Your Employer

Leadership development is a priority for nearly every organization. Consider making a formal request to your employer to cover all or part of the tuition as an investment in your professional development and your network in the city. In your request, highlight both the program's access to senior leaders in Denver as well as your 5280 Fellows project, which will have a direct impact on your leadership capabilities and your organization's most pressing needs and goals. The EQ Emotional Intelligence Assessment that Fellows take is an a-religious, professional development instrument frequently used by human resource departments for their managers and executive leaders. This service alone typically costs \$500 or more in a business setting, and we could invoice your employer for part of these costs upon request.

Your Church

Many churches see value in funding Christian mission and leadership development. Consider approaching your pastor to ask if the church can contribute toward the cost of tuition out of the missions budget. Whereas a 10-day mission trip to India can cost \$3,000+, many Fellows (and churches) report a *lifetime* of impact both inside the church and in their personal lives after completing similar programs. A church's best elders, deacons, and leaders may even have complete a fellows program.

Though making the case that a secular work culture is indeed a "mission field" may take some effort, most pastors see the importance of the callings of their congregants for Christian formation, witness, and service.

Lastly, and most importantly, pray! God is in the business of sending out his people into the world, and as such, He is trustworthy to provide for all your needs – including tuition.

Our team is here to help you afford a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Please reach out with any questions.

Your friend,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Gray". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brian Gray
5280 Fellowship Director
Denver Institute for Faith & Work
brian.gray@denverinstitute.org