

Finance FAQs

WHAT IS WATERMARK'S BUDGET?

\$28.9 MILLION ACROSS ALL CAMPUSES

(for fiscal year ending 6/30/2019)

It is worth celebrating that we have never incurred any debt.

WHAT IS WATERMARK'S MISSIONS BUDGET? **\$28.9 MILLION**

- Every dollar we spend advances God's mission here and around the world.
- More than \$1.3 million is shared with local and international ministry partners to support causes like family restoration, anti-sex trafficking, healthcare, education, mentoring, prison ministry, life initiatives, and more.
- In addition, the Watermark body contributed \$1.8 million to support international discipleship trips as well as external ministry partners through "Designated Giving" funds which support causes such as orphan care, disaster relief, our urgent care clinics, and more.

WHAT IS OUR BUDGET ALLOCATION?

- 84% goes directly to Kingdom work, including all midweek and weekend ministries, our ministry partners (local and international), conferences and other strategic investments in churches locally and around the world, and our staff.
- 16% of our budget goes toward operating, maintaining, and developing the facilities at our four campuses, which are used all throughout the week.

HOW ARE BUDGETS CREATED, APPROVED, AND MANAGED?

Each ministry builds their budget from zero every year, evaluating what we should keep doing, start doing, and stop doing. Each new budget is reviewed at three levels: 1) our internal Finance Team, 2) our lay-led Business Advisory Team, which provides leadership through our budget planning and execution, and 3) our Elders, who ultimately approve the budget. We have processes that track every dollar in and out of Watermark, with monthly reporting for each department. Our financial statements are audited by an outside firm annually to ensure accuracy and accountability.

WHY DON'T WE PASS THE PLATE AT WATERMARK?

It's not because there isn't a need. We believe this is the best way to facilitate joyful giving (2 Corinthians 9:7, Matthew 6:4). Anyone can send checks by mail, give online, or place gifts in the giving boxes across our campuses. About 25% of our annual giving comes in during the month of December.

DOES THE BUDGET CHANGE EVERY YEAR?

Our overall budget grew by 6% from last year. Watermark's attendance has grown by an average of 10% annually. The only way our budget is maintained or can increase is through the generous giving of our body. We continually look for ways to use funds more effectively, cutting budgets where cost-saving opportunities are found. If additional staff seems necessary to support growth, there is a rigorous process to vet all requests before they are approved. Our actual spending has consistently been less than budgeted. Any extra funds are put toward reserves and other strategic priorities.

HOW DOES WATERMARK PREPARE FOR THE UNEXPECTED?

Given that our economy cycles over time and we could be impacted in a downturn, we see wisdom in maintaining some reserves for the unknown. In accordance with the direction of our Business Advisory Team, we target setting aside funds to cover three months of operating expenses, along with a reserve account to fund repairs as needed to our facilities.

WHAT SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AHEAD FOR WATERMARK?

- The expansion of Watermark Resources, our efforts to equip and strengthen the broader Church across the globe including a training center with lodging for pastors and other initiatives
- Leaving a watermark on our city by helping to foster discipleship-based job creation, housing, and economic development
- Further development and expansion of our rapidly growing Plano and Fort Worth campuses
- Building out additional floors for ministry in the Dallas Campus East Tower to increase our discipleship opportunities
- Securing a permanent facility for our Frisco campus
- Future Watermark Urgent Care Clinics to further serve the under-resourced in our community
- Future campus opportunities as Members commit to be the Church in their local communities

These projects cannot begin until the necessary resources are provided by our body.

HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

We regularly meet with Members to discuss our budget and answer questions. Please email FINANCE@WATERMARK.ORG to set up a meeting.

Visit [WATERMARK.ORG/GIVING](https://www.watermark.org/giving) to invest or learn more