

Frequently Asked Questions on **District Grants**

District 6640 offers Clubs the chance to receive matching dollars under The Rotary Foundation's District Grant program. In order to help you understand the features of the District Grant program, 6640 has developed this simple response to what may be the most frequent questions regarding The Rotary Foundation's District Grant program.

Of course, your Assistant District Governor or members of the District Grant subcommittee (Sandy Frum, Bruce Baumberger or Tucker Olson) are great sources for questions which aren't answered here or by visiting the [District Website](#).

1) **Are there any significant changes from last year?**

There are a few changes from last year.

- a) Clubs will only be eligible to apply for District Grant matches for the lesser of \$3750 as outlined below in 3), or 90% of their contributions to The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund during the Rotary Year proceeding the District Grant Year.
- b) If there are insufficient funds to fund all primary requests, all primary matching awards will be reduced on a pro-rata basis. If all primary requests have been fully funded and there are insufficient fund to fund all secondary requests, all secondary matching awards will be reduced on a pro-rata basis.

2) **How do Clubs apply for a District Grant?**

Just like last year, the simple application, available only on-line, will walk you through the steps to apply for a District Grant. Clubs can apply for two District Grants, one domestic and one international. Designate which is your first priority. We will fund that first and, if there is enough money, we will also fund your second grant request.

3) **What is the funding formula?**

The District provides a 1:1 match on Club dollars for District Grant requests between \$500 and \$2500. For grants above \$2500, the match is 1;1 up to \$2500 and .5:1 up to a total of \$3750. If you partner with other clubs, the total match possible for a single project jumps to \$7500.

For grants of \$2500 or more, you need to demonstrate that the project is in one of the six areas of focus of The Rotary Foundation. With that kind of latitude, you can really get creative!

This chart provides you a quick summary on District Grant matches and requirements:

District Grant level	DDF Match Ratio	Areas of Focus Requirement?	Hands-on Requirement?		Can it be Domestic?	Can it be International?
			Domestic	International		
\$500	1:1	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES
\$1,000	1:1	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES
\$2,500	1:1	YES	Yes	NO	YES	YES
\$2500-\$5,000	1:1 for first \$2,500 0.50:1 over \$2,500	YES	Yes	NO	YES	YES

4) Does our District Grant project need to have a hands-on component?

As always, Rotary encourages hands-on efforts of our Clubs, so that is a requirement for most District Grants, **but not all**.

Under The Rotary Foundation and 6440 policies, District Grants can be used for Club defined scholarships (any age, anywhere in the world) and for those Rotary sanctioned partners like Shelter Box. Neither of these types of requests have a hands-on requirement.

In addition, international projects of any size do not have a hands-on requirement. All other projects, regardless of size must have a hands-on component.

5) Is there an endless supply of money for District Grants?

While there is a lot, it is not endless. The Rotary Foundation provides funds to each District based on past contributions to The Rotary Foundation by that District's Clubs and members. Of the funds the District receives from The Rotary Foundation nearly half are reserved to fund District Grants the rest for Global Grants.

The District will also consider what your Club has given to The Rotary Foundation. The more your Club and its members give to The Rotary Foundation, the more you are eligible to receive in either District Grants or in The Rotary Foundations Global Grants program.

So, if your Club/Club members made contributions to The Rotary Foundation during 2015-2016 of \$12,350 or more, you will be able to max out your available District matches under both the Global and/or District Grant programs.

6) Can our Club apply for more than one District Grant?

Your Club can apply for one domestic **and** one international District Grant. However, you need to specify which one you want funded first. The District Grant program is very popular, so we may not be able to fund all grant requests. But if the money is available, we will.

7) When are applications due and when will they be acted upon?

Applications for any District Grants you seek for the 2016-2017 year are due **no later than June 30th**. Really, we mean it! The District Grant subcommittee will review the applications, seek approval from the District Grants Committee, and submit our request to The Rotary Foundation for funding. We expect to have the funds available for distribution by mid-August.

Important -- All projects must wait to begin until they receive the District Grant funds. The District Grant cannot be used retroactively. So plan your project start for August 15th or later and you should be safe.

8) How does our Club apply online?

Once your Club President has authorized an individual to submit an on-line application, that individual should take the following steps:

- Login at the District Website, www.rotary6440.org.
- Open the **Foundation** tab and then select the **District Foundation Information** line and click on the **2016-2017 District Grant Application** line.
- Check to be sure you are authorized to submit a District Grant Application by opening the **Qualified Clubs** tab and clicking on your club. If your name is listed, you can submit a grant request. If you are not listed, contact your club president to get on the list.
- If your club is not highlighted, then one or more of the following problems exist:
 - Your club has not submitted its Memorandum of Understanding for the 2016-2017 year. **You need to submit one each year!**
 - Your club has not had two or more members attend a Grants Seminar for the 2016-2017 year. Your club needs to have two people trained each year at one of the Grants Seminars.
 - Your club or its members did not make a contribution of \$500 or more to The Rotary Foundation.

- Once authorized, you can begin the process of submitting your grant request by clicking on [Submit a Grant Request](#).
- The directions are pretty straight forward, but if you have questions, contact us at distgrants@rotary6440.org.

9) **Where can we get more detailed information?**

The District has put together a **Quick Reference Guide** and has applications and information available on the District Website. Your Club President has received copies of the Guide, but just in case it is lost in the few emails a President receives, visit the District Website and you can download your own.

With matching dollars through the District Grant program, you can

Serve Humanity
and make a difference.