



2025

## Scholarship Award Guidelines

Approved by Madison Rotary Board of Directors

**Rotary's motto is "Service above Self".**

Madison Rotary is pleased to offer six scholarship awards to graduating seniors who embody the organization's motto, "*Service Above Self.*" Six scholarships of \$1,200 will be awarded to students who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to volunteerism, community service, and leadership through their activities and actions.

Examples of volunteer service, activities and actions may include but not limited to participation in a service club like Interact or Key Club, participating in organized mission trips, volunteering to help others, volunteering at a community organization like the YMCA, food bank, hospital, scouting, Rotary Christmas Tree Lot, Bottle Hill Day, raising money to benefit others, peer mentor, tutoring, etc.

Eligible service activities may include, but are not limited to, participation in service clubs such as Interact or Key Club, engagement in organized mission trips, volunteer efforts benefiting individuals or organizations, and service at community-based entities such as the YMCA, food banks, hospitals, scouting programs, the Rotary Christmas tree lot, and Bottle Hill Day. Additional qualifying activities include fundraising to support others, peer mentoring, tutoring, and other forms of meaningful volunteerism.

### Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for consideration, applicants must:

- Be graduating seniors residing in Madison.
- Attend an accredited high school (does not have to be Madison High School).
- Demonstrate a strong commitment to volunteerism and community service.

Financial need is *not* a factor in the selection process.

### Scholarship Criteria

Scholarships will be awarded primarily based on the applicant's volunteer efforts that exemplify Rotary's core value of "*Service Above Self.*"

Three of the six scholarships will be specifically designated for students who meet one of the following criteria:

- Plan to attend a business, vocational, or technical school.
- Have actively participated in Madison Rotary programs or activities (e.g., Interact Club, Christmas Tree Lot, Bottle Hill Day, Shred-It events, library clean-up, etc.).
- Plan to pursue a course of study in the performing arts.

If there are insufficient applicants who meet the above criteria, scholarship awards will be reassigned accordingly.

## **Application Process**

Applicants must complete an online application detailing their volunteerism and community service experiences, both within and/or outside of school. Submissions should be comprehensive and include specific descriptions of activities, roles, and responsibilities. If the applicant has held a leadership position within any service activity, this information should be clearly stated.

The deadline for application submission is **Sunday, April 20, 2025.**

## **Selection Process**

The selection process aims to identify six applicants whose volunteer efforts have positively impacted individuals and communities while also fostering the applicant's personal growth and understanding of service.

Applications will be reviewed by the Scholarship Selection Committee and ranked on a scale of 1 to 5. The highest-ranking applicants will be invited for a personal interview during the week of **May 5, 2025**, to be conducted at **Madison High School's Guidance Department.**

Following the interview process:

**Six students** will be awarded a **\$1,200 scholarship.** Scholarship recipients will be formally recognized at **Madison High School Awards Night.** The official scholarship checks will be distributed at a Madison Rotary meeting on **Thursday, June 12, 2025, at 7:30 AM,** held at the **Madison YMCA.** Scholarship recipients and their parents will be invited to attend this event.

## **Scholarship Selection Committee**

The **Scholarship Selection Committee** will consist of **8 to 10 members** of Madison Rotary, including: The Scholarship Committee Chair, Madison Rotary President, Youth Service Committee member and additional Rotary members interested in participating in the selection process. Any committee member with a direct personal connection to an applicant will be required to recuse themselves from the selection process to ensure fairness and impartiality.

For inquiries regarding the scholarship application process, please contact Barry Kroll, Scholarship Chair at [scholarship@madisonrotarynj.org](mailto:scholarship@madisonrotarynj.org)

### **Email Scholarship/Award Application to:**

Barry Kroll, Scholarship Chair, at [scholarship@madisonrotarynj.org](mailto:scholarship@madisonrotarynj.org)

Email attachment must be in either doc, docx or pdf format.

### **Deadline for Submission:**

**DEADLINE APRIL 20, 2025**