

Rotary is a global network of 1.4 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves. Locally, the Rotary Club of York does this through **York Rotary Foundation Grants**. Interested applicants must complete a Letter of Interest (LOI) found on the Rotary website – [www.yorkrotary.org](http://www.yorkrotary.org) The LOI will open on **March 9, 2026 and will close on April 10, 2026 at 5:00pm.**

## **York Rotary Grants**

York Rotary Grants provide valuable funding support to address the changing needs of York through grant programs focused on improving our local community. Grants of \$2,500-\$10,000 will be awarded to programs/projects that have a total project budget of \$50,000 or less in 2026 that align with our Rotary Club of York focus areas. Final grant amounts are averaged and usually below what is requested; our average grant size is \$5,000.

### Rotary Club of York Focus Areas:

- CONNECT leaders.
- ENRICH our members through educational programs, fellowship, service and friendship
- CULTIVATE youth success
- IMPROVE the York City environment
- SUPPORT community development opportunities
- RESPOND in times of crisis
- ADVANCE the mission of Rotary International

The fields of interest for 2026 and examples of projects/programs that would fall under these fields follow. **The Rotary Club grants committee only accepts letters of interest that fall under one of these interests.**

### **CULTIVATE youth success**

- Programs and projects helping York City residents under the age of 18 prepare for their future as successful students, leaders, and community members.
- Events designed to bring youth together to build connection, learning and understanding.
- Educational programs to build skills needed for a successful future (No applications for scholarships will be considered. The Rotary Club of York already provides scholarship funding. If seeking a scholarship, please visit <https://www.yorkrotary.org/page/scholarships> ).

### **IMPROVE the York City Environment**

- Programs and projects designed to improve the environment in the City of York to benefit its residents and visitors. Environment can be physical improvements to the built environment, the social environment, and/or the cultural environment. Projects under this scope include beautification such as murals, convening conversations to build bridges among communities, sense of place activities, and programs that remove barriers and improve access for all York City residents.

## **Requirements**

- Be a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation, a unit of government, or school district located in and providing programming/services in York County, Pennsylvania. Applicants are required to provide proof of incorporation and activity in Pennsylvania before applications are reviewed or funds awarded.

- Unincorporated groups must apply through a nonprofit, tax exempt corporation that acts as a fiscal sponsor. The fiscal sponsor is legally responsible for the administration of the contract, including all reporting requirements, and may charge a fee for its services. Applicants applying through a fiscal sponsor organization must meet the same requirements as other applicants. The fiscal sponsor is responsible for any award. The fiscal sponsor receives the award check directly from the Rotary Club of York and is responsible for ensuring the completion of the final reports.
- Priority will be given to programs, projects and events that directly serve historically disadvantaged communities in York. Historically disadvantaged communities are defined as:
  - Black, Indigenous people of color (BIPOC)
  - Persons with disabilities
  - Children and adults that are housing insecure
  - Children and adults below the poverty line
  - Older adults over 55+ that are on a fixed income
  - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Persons

**Priority given to projects that are working to improve the lives of the residents of York City. This means events that take place geographically in the City of York and/or programs that positively impact the residents of York City.**

## Funding Restrictions

Grant funds cannot be used for any of the following:

- Activities outside of July 1, 2026-June 31, 2027.
- Activities that have a religious purpose.
- Payments to lobbyists.
- Cash prizes and awards.
- Benefit activities or fundraising events.

## Grant Amount- Rotary grant can't exceed 75% of the total support for the project

Grants addressing one of the fields of interest that are selected to move to the full application stage can request \$2,500-\$10,000 but the requested amount from Rotary can only fund up to 75% of the total cost; 25% of the support (in-kind or cash) must be from another source.

## Application Review Process

- All interested applicants complete a Letter of Interest (LOI) found on the Rotary website – [www.yorkrotary.org](http://www.yorkrotary.org)
- The LOI will open on **March 9, 2026, and close on April 10, 2026, at 5:00pm**. LOIs will be reviewed to make sure they meet the criteria and move them on to full application.
- Full applications will open **April 20, 2026 and will close on May 1, 2026 at 5:00pm**.
- Applicants will receive notification by **June 15, 2026**.