

Salida Sunrise Rotary Charitable Fund

P.O. Box 1044

Salida, Colorado 81201

Sunrise Rotary Charitable Fund Scholarship Process

The Scholarship Committee receives a distribution from the Charitable Fund once a fiscal year. The Scholarship Committee divides the distribution amount between the Fall Scholarship Cycle and the Spring Scholarship Cycle. The Scholarship Committee reserves the right to use all the funds designated for a disbursement cycle or to hold funds over for the next Scholarship Cycle. Scholarship funds may also be held over to be used in the next fiscal year.

A. Statement of Philosophy for Individual Scholarships:

1. Promotes the Avenues of Service of Rotary.
 - a. Demonstrated through examples on the application.
2. Assist Youth in enhancing a student's ability to further their education.
 - a. Demonstrated through statements of financial need accurately presented.
3. **Gives precedence to those who might not otherwise be recognized or qualify due to special circumstances: economics, learning ability, etc.**
 - a. **Demonstrated through a statement of recommendation by a current counselor, coach, teacher or mentor.**
4. Students demonstrating residence within the Salida R-32-J District are eligible to apply.
 - a. Application may request proof of residency through a w-2, electric bill, or other appropriate documentation.
5. The club wishes to sponsor both graduating seniors and students enrolled in post high school programs. The scholarship committee, with a unanimous vote, may support any student whose intention is to further her/ his education to create or improve a path for their post high school career.
 - a. Scholarships are renewable
 - b. Renewing students will be asked to file a completed Scholarship Application and Remittance Form plus include an Essay that addresses the following:
 - i) How the support was used to further their studies.
 - ii) A letter from a **current** Professor/Counselor from the program the student is enrolled in verifying the student's participation level.
 - iii) How they are continuing to support the Rotary Avenues of Service.
 - iv) Academic Records (unofficial transcript/copy of most recent grade report) min. 2.5 cumulative GPA.
6. The club wishes to make substantial awards, but also wants to support a variety of requests.
 - a. At this time, the committee is considering awards in the amount of \$500.00-\$5,000.00 per semester.

- b. Awards over \$250.00 will be presented to the entire club and vote will be taken.

B. Type of Funding

- 1. Individuals: 100% of our funds will be allocated to this category.

a. Salida Sunrise Rotary New College/University/Vo-Tech Student Scholarship (Recent high school graduate or first year post high school student)

- i) Eligible applicants: Residence within the Salida R-32-J District, and with preference given to those who are planning to attend a post-secondary educational institution (e.g., accredited colleges, universities, and technical institutions) in the State of Colorado, and have a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA.
- ii) The club will determine the number of scholarships available based on the number of applicants and the number of renewable applicants.

b. Salida Sunrise Rotary Current College/University/Vo-Tech Student Scholarship (New applicant current post high school student or renewing applicant)

- i) Eligible applicants: Residence within the Salida R-32-J District, and with preference given to those who are attending a post-secondary educational institution (e.g., accredited colleges, universities, and technical institutions) in the State of Colorado, and have a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA.
- ii) The club will determine the number of scholarships available based on the number of applicants and the number of renewable applicants.

c. Sonia Walter Memorial Scholarship

- i) Eligible applicants: You **must** live within the Salida R-32-J School district for at least 12 months and be able to show proof.
- ii) You are a female student graduating from high school and will attend a technical, community, or four-year college/university. If you receive this scholarship, you can apply to receive it three more times after your first year of studies.
- iii) Your eligibility has everything to do with who you are and not your GPA. Your life and deeds should emulate Sonia's and, as a result, demonstrate what you will be able to accomplish.
- iv) You have been accepted to a post-secondary school and are planning a full course load.

C. Timelines

- 1. Individual Scholarships: **Fall disbursement** (High School Graduates and Current College Students)

- a. **Tuesday, March 11, 2025:** Call for Application/Announcement is made to students that fit the eligibility requirement.

- b. **Friday, April 11, 2025 at 5:00 PM:** Deadline for Application Submission (see Components of the Application below)

- c. **Wednesday, April 23, 2025:** Deadline for Committee Review and Award Decision.

- i. The Scholarship Committee makes a recommendation to the Budget and Finance Committee, which follows the process for recommendation to

- the club Members, and approval.
 - ii. Dates for votes will be determined by the Salida Sunrise Rotary meeting calendar.
 - d. **Awards are announced in May**
 - e. Funds are disbursed **August 4, 2025**, and payment will be made directly to the College/University, Vo-Tech School, Community College Financial Aid Department.
 - 2. Individual Scholarships: **Winter/Spring disbursement** (Current recipients, and/or new requests)
 - a. **Tuesday, November 12, 2024:** Call for Application/Announcement is made to students that fit the eligibility requirement.
 - b. **Friday, December 6, 2024 at 5 PM:** Deadline for Application Submission (see Components of the Application below).
 - c. **Thursday, December 12, 2024:** Deadline for Committee Review and Award Decision.
 - i. The Scholarship Committee makes a recommendation to the Budget and Finance Committee, which follows the process for recommendation to the club Members, and approval.
 - ii. Dates for votes will be determined by the Salida Sunrise Rotary meeting calendar.
 - d. **Friday, January 6, 2025:** Funds mailed directly to institution.
 - 3. **Awards are announced the end of December.**
 - 4. Funds are disbursed in the winter/spring and payment will be made directly to the College/University, Vo-Tech School or Community College Financial Aid Department.
- D. **Components of the Application**
 - 1. Salida Sunrise Rotary Charitable Fund Scholarship Criteria Form, includes the following items:
 - a. **A Signed Personal Essay** that addresses the Philosophy and Goals of the Scholarship
 - b. **Statement** of Service
 - c. **Letters** of Recommendation (number varies depending on which application is used)
 - d. **Academic Records** to determine minimum cumulative 2.5 GPA and readiness for success.
 - 2. Salida Sunrise Rotary Charitable Fund **Scholarship Application**
 - 3. **Scholarship Remittance Document.**