



Waunakee Rotary Foundation 2026 Service to Humanity Scholarship Application

Description

The Waunakee Rotary Foundation plans to award up to four Service to Humanity Scholarships to high school seniors graduating in the Spring of 2026 who provide exceptional community service. The total value of the scholarships awarded could be up to \$8,000. The amount of each scholarship awarded could vary depending on the number of selected scholarship recipients and the quality of the community service provided by each recipient. The minimum scholarship amount to be awarded is \$1,000. In 2025, two \$3,000 scholarships and one \$2,000 scholarship were awarded. In 2024, one \$3,000 scholarship, one \$2,000 scholarship, and two \$1,500 scholarships were awarded. In 2023, two \$3,000 scholarships and two \$1,000 scholarships were awarded.

Examples of exceptional community service include international mission service trips, national mission service trips, state or local mission service trips, community service projects that you organized or participated in, and assisting local community service organizations.

Eligibility Requirements

1. High school seniors in good standing residing in the Waunakee Community School District graduating in the Spring of 2026 from Waunakee High School, Edgewood High School, Madison Country Day School, St. Ambrose Academy, Abundant Life Christian School, or a homeschool.
2. Seniors awarded scholarships must be registered as full-time students (12 credit hours minimum) at an accredited university, college, technical school, trade school, or apprentice program in the Fall of 2026.
3. Children and grandchildren of Waunakee Rotary Members are not eligible due to certain tax regulations.
4. Scholarship recipients are invited to attend the Waunakee Rotary Club meeting held at Rex's Innkeeper on Thursday, June 4, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. You and your parent(s) or guardian(s) will be our guests during the meeting, and you will be asked to introduce yourself to the club members and speak for a few minutes about your past community service and your future plans.

Application Requirements

1. Complete the attached Application Form and submit all required documents by 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2026. Incomplete, late, or lost applications will not be considered.
2. Write an essay between 400 to 600 words, double spaced, and typed in 12-point font describing your community service and how it follows the Rotary International Motto, *Service Above Self*.
3. Rotary International is dedicated to seven Causes to improve our world: (1) promoting peace, (2) fighting disease, (3) providing clean water, sanitation, and hygiene, (4) saving mothers and children, (5) supporting education, (6) growing local economies, and (7) protecting the environment. Select one these Causes and describe how your community service benefits the selected Cause. The topic for this essay should be different than your Service above Self Essay. Your Cause Essay should be between 400 to 600 words, double spaced, and typed in 12-point font.
4. Provide a Community Service List from Grades 9 to 12 that includes (a) your community service projects, (b) the names and email addresses of the community service advisors, (c) the dates, if available, of each community service project, and (d) your total community service hours for each project over the course of your high school years. This Community Service List may be subject to verification.



Waunakee Rotary Foundation 2026 Service to Humanity Scholarship Application Form

Name: _____
First Middle Last

Address: _____
Number Street

City State Zip Code

Phone: _____

Email: _____

High School: _____

University, College, Technical School, Trade School, or Apprentice Program you are attending:

Major or Career Goal: _____

If you have any questions or if you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your scholarship application within 24 hours after you have submitted your scholarship documents, please contact Robert Arntz at 608-849-7292 or rjarntz@tds.net

I am submitting scanned or electronic PDF files of the following documents in an email to rjarntz@tds.net before the **11:59 p.m. deadline on Wednesday, March 18, 2026.**

Note: Google Documents will not be accepted.

- ☐ This Completed Scholarship Application Form.
- ☐ *Service Above Self* Essay between 400 to 600 words, double spaced, and typed in 12-point font.
- ☐ Cause Essay between 400 to 600 words, double spaced, and typed in 12-point font.
- ☐ Community Service List from Grades 9 to 12.

I certify that my essays are my original written work and were not created with Artificial Intelligence. (Note, the first question of the Rotary Four-Way Test: *Is it the Truth?*)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Scholarship application finalists will be selected by Friday, April 3, 2026. Finalists will be interviewed and ranked by a committee of Waunakee Rotarians between April 20 and April 30, 2026, at the Waunakee Public Library. Up to four Waunakee Rotary Foundation 2026 Service to Humanity Scholarship recipients will be notified by May 5, 2026.