

The Rotary Peace Fellowship

Application Overview

Welcome to the 2021 Rotary Peace Fellowship application! This overview provides details about the information and supporting documents you will need to complete each section of the application, our review timeline, and tips to strengthen your application. Please review this information carefully before beginning your application.

Eligibility and Qualification

The first section contains an eligibility and qualification quiz. You can find complete information about eligibility and other requirements on our [website](#). If you do not meet all eligibility and qualification requirements, you will not be able to continue completing an application.

Candidate Certification

All candidates are required to agree to the terms of the Candidate Certification in order to proceed with the application.

Personal Information and Program Selection

Under Personal Information, you will be asked to enter demographic and contact information. This information will be shared with Rotary Foundation staff, Rotary district officers, volunteer application readers, and university representatives to facilitate review of your application and your participation in the Rotary Peace Fellowship program, if you are selected.

Candidates may apply to either the master's degree fellowship or the professional development certificate program. You may not apply to both programs in the same application cycle.

Candidates applying to the master's degree program must indicate their first and second preference universities. You should carefully review the fact sheets for all six Rotary Peace Center partner universities to confirm that you are eligible for admission to your preferred universities before indicating this choice in your application. The fact sheets are available in the Program Selection section of the application and on our website. Candidates who are ineligible for admission to their preferred universities are automatically ineligible to be selected to receive a Rotary Peace Fellowship.

Candidates applying to the certificate program must indicate the center where they would prefer to study, indicating both first and second session preferences. While we endeavor to assign candidates to their first session preference, you may be assigned to either session. If you are only available to attend one session, you should select this session as both your first and second preferences.

Education and Experience

Candidates to the master's degree program must have a minimum of three years of full-time, relevant experience in peacebuilding or development. Candidates to the professional development certificate must have a minimum of five years of full-time, relevant experience in peacebuilding or development.

Relevant experience should promote peace and/or development on the local, regional, national, or international level. This experience can be across a variety of sectors such as government, NGO, non-profit, military, journalism, education, public health, etc.

Full-time work experience is defined as a minimum of 30 hours per week. Part-time work may be listed as long as the position was held for at least 2 months and you worked 10 or more hours per week. If your part-time work does not meet these minimum criteria, do not include it in this section; however, these positions can be listed in your resume if they demonstrate commitment to peace and development.

The Education section will ask you to enter information for all higher education institutions you have attended. You should only include undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral-level studies. Please do not include certificates or other diplomas.

Master's degree candidates will be asked to upload transcripts from all institutions you list in the education section. These transcripts should list all courses taken, grades received, and the degree issued (if a degree was earned). Transcripts must be in English; if they are issued to you in another language, you will need to have them translated by a certified translator. Note that if your first preference university is the University of North Carolina, you'll also need to submit a valid GRE score later in the application.

If you are applying to the master's degree program and have already earned a graduate degree (master's or doctorate) in a field related to peace studies, conflict resolution, international relations, or international development, you will be prompted to describe how earning another graduate degree in this field will increase your capacity as a peacebuilder.

Expression of Interest for District Endorsement

The next section is for you to identify and contact your local Rotary district. We recommend sending your expression of interest to the district where you are currently living; however, if you have a pre-existing connection with another Rotary district, you may send the expression of interest to that district instead. There is a district finder built into this section of the application to assist you in identifying the appropriate district contact person.

Districts will make their decision on whether to accept your expression of interest based on what you have entered in the previous application sections, including your education and relevant experience, as well as your answers to the short response questions in this section about your interest in the program. When a district accepts your expression of interest, your application will become available to them so that they can view your "in

progress" application and provide feedback for ways to strengthen your application before you submit it. **Note that if a district agrees to consider your application for endorsement, your application will still need to go through further review and you will be interviewed by the district before your application can be endorsed. This occurs after your application has been submitted.**

If there is no Rotary presence in your country, you are eligible to be considered for an alternative pathway to endorsement. This means you can work with an at-large district that has agreed to review applications from outside of their geographic area, or with a Rotary Peace Fellow alum. Rotary Peace Centers staff will contact you with more details.

Essays

Master's degree candidates: You will be asked to respond to five essay questions. Your essays should be a minimum of 300 words, and a maximum of 500 words.

Certificate program candidates: You will be asked to respond to two essay questions. Your essays should be a minimum of 300 words, and a maximum of 500 words.

Certificate Candidates Only: Social Change Initiative Plan

Certificate candidates will submit a social change initiative plan as part of the application. This should describe the project you would like to implement in the nine-month period between the on-site course and the capstone seminar. You will continue to develop this plan and gain the skills you need to begin your work during the on-site program. However, you will be asked to describe your idea, why it is needed, the outcomes you envision, and other details as part of the application.

Cross-Cultural Experience

Previous cross-cultural or international experience is an important asset for Rotary Peace Fellows. This section will ask you to describe your experience living, studying, or volunteering in other countries; do not include leisure travel in this section. If you have not had the opportunity to travel internationally, you may describe cross-cultural experiences you have had locally.

Languages

This section will ask you to indicate your native language, as well as any other languages you speak. For all non-native languages, you will be asked to indicate your proficiency on a scale from 1 to 5 in reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

Master's Candidates Only: Proof of English Proficiency

If English is not your native language, you will need to provide proof of English proficiency for admission to the master's program. Carefully review the English proficiency requirements for the universities you have indicated in the program selection section to ensure that you are eligible for admission. Candidates can upload valid results from an exam accepted by the university, such as the TOEFL or IELTS, to prove proficiency.

Some candidates may be eligible for an exemption to their preferred university's English language requirements. Information about each university's exemption criteria can be found on their websites or on their fact sheet. If you indicate that you would like to be considered for an exemption, you will need to explain what qualifies you for this exemption and upload documentation, such as a screenshot of the university web page where the exemption is listed or a letter from the university's admission staff granting you a waiver from this requirement. If you are selected and found to be ineligible for an exemption, you will be required to submit valid test scores as a condition of your selection and final acceptance into the program.

UNC Candidates Only: GRE Scores

Candidates who indicate UNC as their first preference university for the master's program will need to upload valid GRE scores. The GRE is required for admission to UNC. If you indicate the Duke/UNC Rotary Peace Center as your first preference and do not submit GRE scores, you will only be considered for selection to Duke.

Recommendations

Master's degree candidates: You are required to submit one academic recommendation (a former professor, or someone who has taught you in a training or learning environment) and one professional recommendation. You will need to provide the name and email address for the people recommending you.

Certificate program candidates: You are required to submit two professional recommendations, one of which should be from your current employer. You will need to provide the name and email address for the people recommending you.

Self-recommendations will not be accepted.

Submission

All application submissions are final and no edits can be made post-submission. **Please make sure all materials, including recommendations are included in your application before submission.**

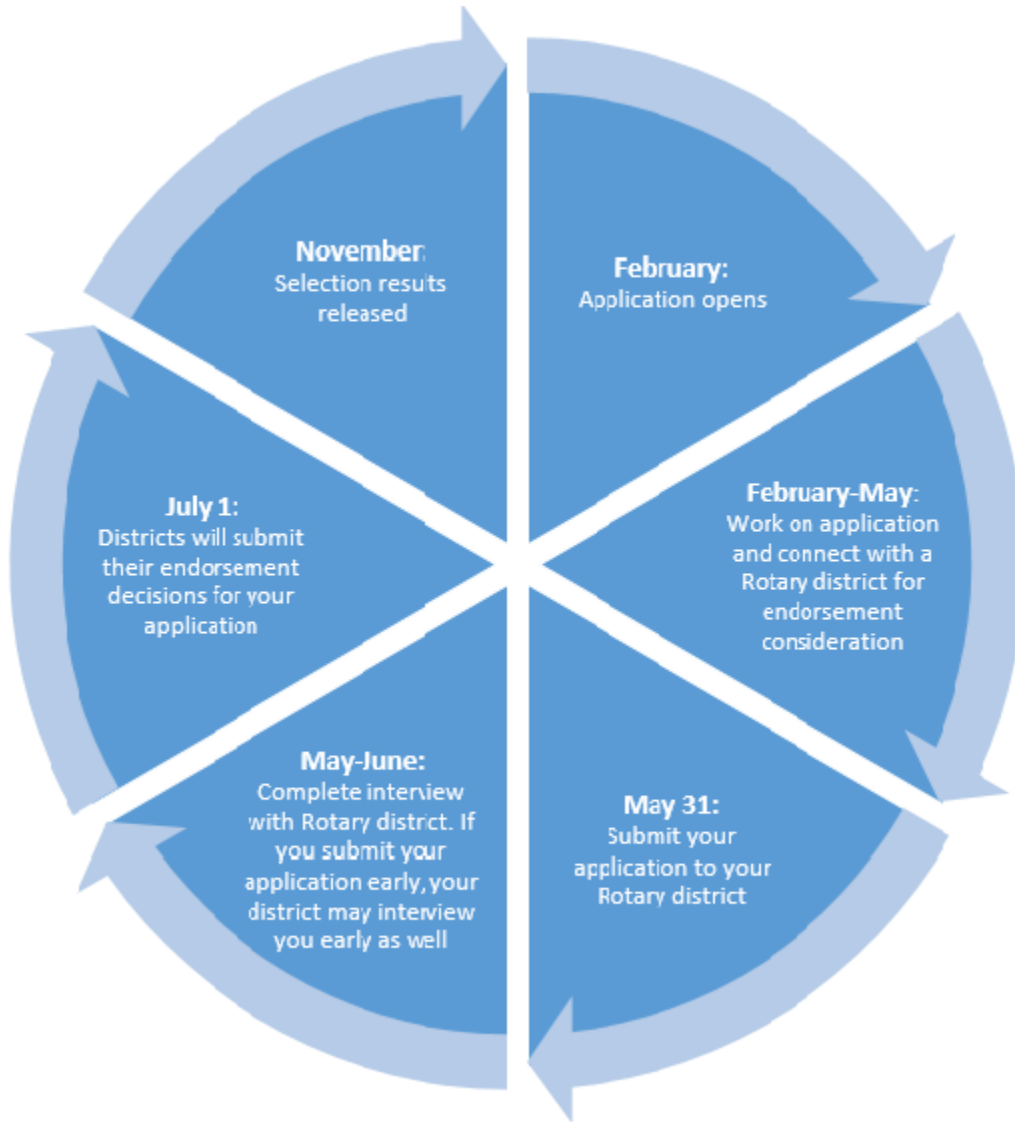
Once you submit your application, it will be reviewed by Rotary Peace Centers staff for completeness and compliance with all eligibility and qualification requirements before becoming available to your Rotary district representatives for an endorsement decision. The district will interview you either in person or via video conferencing software before submitting their endorsement decision. Applications must be submitted online by 31 May. Districts have until 1 July to interview you and review your application for endorsement consideration. The district will submit an endorsement decision to Rotary International by 1 July. Only applications with an approved endorsement will be considered for the fellowship.

Strengthen Your Application

Because all application submissions are final, if you wish to get feedback from your district on ways to improve your application before you submit it, you will need to

connect with them early (we recommend by no later than mid-April) to allow ample time for review.

Timeline



Questions

If you have questions about the application, please contact Mike Weaver, District 5240 Peace Fellow Advisor via email: amweaver@pacbell.net