

# Rotary Global Grants Scholarships

**A Guide for Rotary Clubs**

## Rotary District 5280



# A Brief History of Rotary Scholarships

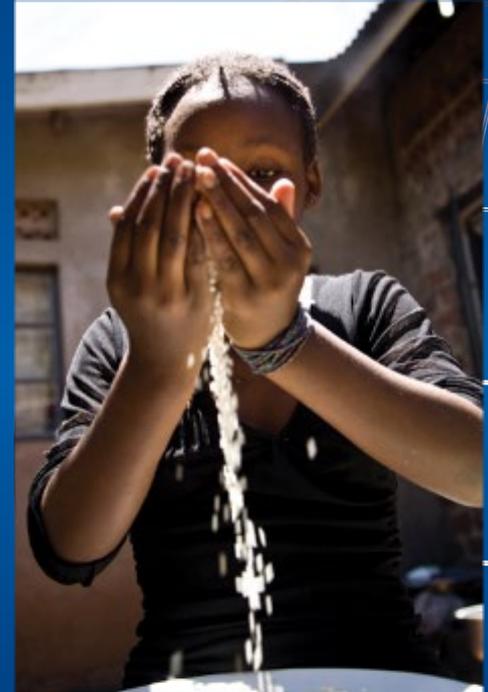
- In 1947 the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship was founded by The Rotary Foundation to build goodwill and peace in the world.
- More than 30,000 men and women from 100 nations have studied abroad
- Rotary is the world's largest private provider of international scholarships, providing around 1,000 each year.
- The program became the Global Grants Scholarship in 2013.



# Rotary Scholarship Alumni

Distinguished alumni include:

- Bill Moyers - Journalist
- Paul Volcker – Federal Reserve Chair
- Roger Ebert - Motion Picture Critic
- Janet Chvatal – Classical Soprano
- Louise Richardson – Vice Chancellor Oxford University



# Global Grants Scholarships

\$30,600 general scholarship grant for one year of study abroad to include tuition, books, travel, room & board.

Applications must be made through a local Rotary club.



# Global Grants Scholarships

- Scholarships are for one year graduate studies abroad.
- Rotary has identified seven Areas of Focus as related to its mission of "*Service above Self.*"
- Studies, proposed project and career goals must all relate to one of the seven Areas of Focus.



# Scholarship Eligibility

- Applicants cannot be Rotarians, employees of Rotary, or be from immediate Rotary families.
- Applicants must be US citizens, or citizens of a country in which there are Rotary clubs.
- Applicants must have completed their undergraduate degree program before commencing scholarship studies.



# Scholarship Eligibility, cont.

- Applicants must be proficient in the native language of the host country.
- Applicants must show acceptance in graduate studies at a university or other academic institution outside of the U.S.
- Studies, projects and career goals must relate to one of the seven Areas of Focus identified by The Rotary Foundation as fundamental to the goals of Rotary.



# Areas of Focus

-  Peacebuilding and conflict prevention
-  Disease prevention and treatment
-  Water, sanitation, and hygiene
-  Maternal and child health
-  Basic education and literacy
-  Community economic development
-  Environment

# Project Proposals

- Scholars must propose and execute a community-based service project.
- Project proposals are included in the scholarship grant application.
- Project implementation is coordinated with the host club and district.
- Projects must be sustainable and measurable.
- Project activities should draw from real community needs.



# Ideal Candidate Qualities

- Possesses excellent leadership skills and potential.
- Has a proven record of success in his/her academic field or vocation.
- Has demonstrated a personal commitment to community service.
- Has well-defined and realistic goals.



# Ideal Candidate Qualities, cont.

- Has concrete ideas as to how he/she will make advances within his/her chosen career field.
- Is sincere about maintaining a lifelong relationship with Rotary after the scholarship period.



# 2026-27 Scholarship Timetable

- Applications are due to clubs on December 12, 2025 via email and U.S. Mail.
- Candidate interviews are held by each club in JAN/FEB 2026.
- Club endorsed applications are due to the District by February 6, 2026.
- District interviews are held in March 2026. Date and place to be determined.



# Club Participation

- Rotary clubs are a critical component in the Global Grants Scholarship program.
- Sponsor clubs must be certified before Global Grant application.
- Candidates may be from local universities and colleges, but need not be current students. Any candidate that meets the general qualifications is eligible.



# Club Responsibilities

- Review application materials.
- Interview qualified candidates.
- Club approval of selected candidates.
- Assign a club counselor to the selected candidates.
- Forward approved candidate applications to District 5280.
- Invite candidates to club meetings and district events.



# Club Responsibilities, cont.

- An online Global Grants Application must be completed for each candidate selected at the District level.
- Clubs are responsible for distributing scholarship funds to the scholar.
- Club counselors must stay in regular contact with their scholars abroad.
- Clubs must follow up with their scholars to ensure they follow all requirements upon their return home.



# Scholar Responsibilities

- Scholars must provide evidence of their acceptance at their university abroad with their application.
- Scholars must participate in club meetings and district events prior to departure.
- Scholars must complete a pre-departure Orientation.
- Scholars must design and execute a community-based service project while abroad in their host district.



# Scholar Responsibilities, cont.

- Scholars must participate in club and district activities with their host club while abroad.
- Scholars must give presentations to their host club and/or district while abroad.
- Scholars must report to their sponsor club and complete a Report to The Rotary Foundation upon completion of their year abroad.
- Scholars must give presentations to their sponsor club and other clubs upon their return home.



# FAQs

- How do clubs get the word out about the Global Grants Scholarships to prospective candidates?
  - Clubs may utilize social media and contact study abroad offices at local universities and colleges in District 5280 and send them information and application materials.
- How are candidates selected?
  - Clubs should organize a Scholarship Committee to recruit candidates, review applications, and interview applicants.



# FAQs cont.

- How many scholarships are available in the District?
  - Depending on available funding one or more scholarships may be available in any given year.
- How are scholarships funded?
  - All global grants, including scholarships, receive an 80% match on District Designated Funds (DDF) from the World Fund (WF).



# FAQs cont.

- If a scholar candidate is selected at the District level, are they assured a scholarship?
  - No. The Rotary Foundation will review the candidate's qualifications and has the final say on awarding the scholarship.
- How do scholars stay in touch with Rotary after the completion of their year abroad?
  - In addition to club resources, scholars are encouraged to join the Scholars Foundation Alumni group and become a Rotarian.



# Resources

- [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)
- The Rotary Foundation
  - *Global Grants Scholarships*
-  Rotary on Facebook



# Rotary Global Grants Scholarships

## Questions?

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