

Rotary International

District 5580

Corporate Member Program

What is a Corporate Membership in our Rotary Club?

Purpose

Feedback from numerous surveys and focus groups has repeatedly shown that prospective members and current younger Rotarians require flexibility in their Rotary membership. A corporate membership is an alternative and an option for Rotary membership and the resulting impact it may have on membership trends and the club's overall effectiveness.

The corporate membership program will allow a corporation or company in the Club's area to become a member of a Rotary Club, through an established membership approval process, and to appoint up to four designees as the individuals attending club meetings, serving on projects, voting on club matters, serving as club officers and club committees, and so on.

Premise:

A corporate membership category will increase the club's ability to attract and retain a qualified and diverse professional base within the community. It allows for flexibility and recognizes the tremendous mobility that is the norm within the current corporate environment.

Demonstrated Results and Measures:

To evaluate the effectiveness of Corporate Membership participating clubs need to demonstrate results in the following areas:

Increase in:

-) Club membership recruitment and retention
-) Support to the Rotary Foundation (program participation and fundraising)
-) Successful service projects (community and international)

Improvement in:

-) Leadership and engagement opportunities for members
-) Participation in club activities
-) Gender balance in the clubs' membership
-) Overall diversity within the club's membership

Decrease in average age of club membership:

To evaluate the effectiveness of corporate membership, club will be expected to provide the following data:

-) Number of corporate members that have expressed interest and have been accepted into the club
-) Amount of designee turnover
-) Number of conversions from corporate designee to active membership
-) Length of time corporation have remained corporate members before terminating their membership with the club and why they have terminated their membership with the club
-) Number of conversions that have terminated their membership and why they have terminated their membership

Program Considerations

1. **Approval.** A corporate entity or organization can become an eligible corporate member of the Rotary club through an **approval process established by the club.**
2. **Designees.** Once an entity becomes an eligible corporate member through the established approval process, it may appoint up to **four persons** to be its designees, one of whom must be a member of that entity's senior executive group; the others can be managerial individuals employed full time by the eligible corporation.
3. **Changing designees.** The club will determine the ability of the eligible corporation to change any of its designees so long as at all times one of them is a member of the eligible corporation's senior executive group.
4. **Inductions.** A corporate member designee will be formally inducted into the club as established by the club.

5. **Attendance.** The attendance requirement for an eligible corporation will be established by the Club.
6. **Classification.** The classification of the eligible corporation and its designees will be established by the club.
7. **RI registration.** Each designee will be listed as an official member of the Rotary Club and will be noted in the roster that they are designees of the named eligible corporation.
8. **Badges.** Badge references will be determined by the Local Rotary Club.
9. **Votes and quorum.** For the purpose of general meetings and club matters. Designee voting will be established by the club.
10. **Holding Office.** Each designee, as an individual, can hold any office in the Rotary Club to which the designee is elected in the normal way. The number of designees to hold an office at any one time will be established by the club.
11. **Financial obligations.** The financial obligations of an eligible corporation may be as follows as determined by the local club:
 - (a) Initiation fee: If used, an Amount determined by the club.
 - (b) RI dues: Payable for each member as stipulated in RI Bylaws 18.030.
 - (c) Annual Club Dues: An amount determined by the club.
 - (d) Annual District Dues: An amount determined by the district.
 - (e) Meal/beverage costs: An amount determined by the club.
 - (f) Change of membership status from corporate designee to active: An amount determined by the club.
 - (g) Conversion from designee of eligible corporation to individual membership while no longer employed by eligible corporation: If used, an amount determined by the club.
 - (h) Optional contribution The Rotary Foundation: If used, an amount determined by the club.

12. **Conversion.** A designee of the eligible corporation, while still an employee of the eligible corporation, may convert to an individual membership of the club in a process determined by the local club. The club will establish how initiation fees, dues, and costs will be handled. The club will also determine whether and how a designee who has been a member, upon leaving the employ of the corporation, can convert his/her membership to an individual membership.
13. **Bulletin and Communication.** The club will decide whether each designee will receive the club's weekly bulletin/Newsletter (if published) and regular club communications; clubs are strongly encouraged to communicate with each designee regularly and update them to the operations of the club.
14. **Receipt of the Rotarian or Rotary Regional Magazine.** The club will decide how a designee will receive the relevant RI magazine and whether the cost will be assumed by the club, the designee, or the eligible corporation.
15. **Public Liability cover.** The corporate member designees will be included under the respective club liability insurance while participating in any approved club activities or projects, if applicable.
16. **Participation in youth activities.** The corporate member designees are expected to abide by all restrictions, policies, and procedures with Respect to club activities involving youth.
17. **Termination.** The process for terminating the membership of a designee or the eligible corporation will be determined by the club.