**CLUB QUALIFICATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

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**THE ROTARY FOUNDATION**

1. Club Qualification
2. Club Officer Responsibilities
3. Financial Management Plan
4. Bank Account Requirements
5. Report on Use of Grant Funds
6. Document Retention
7. Reporting Misuse of Grant Funds

**1. Club Qualification:** To participate in Rotary Foundation global and packaged grants, the club must agree to implement the financial and stewardship requirements in this memorandum of understanding (MOU) provided by The Rotary Foundation (TRF) and to send at least one club member to the district’s grant management seminar at least every 3 years. The district may also establish additional requirements for club qualification and/or require its clubs to be qualified in order to participate in Rotary Foundation district grants. By completing these requirements, the club becomes qualified and eligible to participate in the TRF grant program.

 A. Upon successful completion of the qualification requirements, the club will be qualified for one Rotary year.

 B. To maintain qualified status, the club must comply with this MOU, any additional district requirements, and all

 applicable TRF policies.

 C. The club is responsible for the use of funds for club-sponsored grants, regardless of who controls the funds.

 D. Qualification may be suspended or revoked for misuse or mismanagement of grant funds involving, but not limited to:

 fraud; forgery; membership falsification; gross negligence; endangerment of health, welfare, or safety of beneficiaries;

 ineligible contributions; use of funds for personal gain; undisclosed conflicts of interest; monopolization of grant funds

 by individuals; report falsification; overpricing; acceptance of payments from beneficiaries; illegal activities; use of

 grant funds for ineligible purposes.

 E. The club must cooperate with any financial, grant, or operational audits.

**2. Club Officer Responsibilities:**

The club officers hold primary responsibility for club qualification and the proper implementation of TRF grants.

Club officer responsibilities include:

 A. Appointing at least one club member to implement, manage, and maintain club qualification

 B. Ensuring that all TRF grants adhere to stewardship measures and proper grant management practices

 C. Ensuring that all individuals involved in a grant conduct their activities in a way that avoids any actual or

 perceived conflict of interest.

**3. Financial Management Plan:**

The club must have a written financial management plan to provide consistent administration of grant funds.

The financial management plan must include procedures to:

 A. Maintain a standard set of accounts, which includes a complete record of all receipts and disbursements of grant funds

 B. Disburse grant funds, as appropriate

 C. Maintain segregation of duties for handling funds

 D. Establish an inventory system for equipment and other assets purchased with grant funds, and maintain records for

 items that are purchased, produced, or distributed through grant activities

 E. Ensure that all grant activities, including the conversion of funds, comply with local law

**4. Bank Account Requirements:** In order to receive grant funds, the club must have a dedicated bank account that is used solely for the project when receiving and disbursing TRF grant funds and any additional project funding. **Clubs not maintaining a separate grant account will be required to return all district grant funds to the district.**

 A. A separate account must be used for club-sponsored grants, and the name of the account should clearly indentify its

 use for grant project funds. The account must:

 1) Have a minimum of two Rotarian signatories from the club for disbursements

 2) Be a low- or noninterest-bearing account

 B. Any interest earned must be documented and used for eligible, approved grant activities, or returned to TRF.

 C. Grant funds may not be deposited in investment accounts including, but not limited to, mutual funds, certificates of

 deposit, bonds, and stocks.

 D. Bank statements must be provided to the District Stewardship Chair to support receipt and use of TRF grant funds.

 E. The club must maintain a written plan for transferring custody of the bank accounts in the event of a change in

 signatories.

**5. Report on Use of Grant Funds:** The club must adhere to all TRF and district reporting requirements. Grant reporting is a key aspect of grant management and stewardship, as it informs TRF of the grant’s progress and how funds are spent.

Clubs will have **12 months** from the date they receive District Grant funds to report and produce an accounting of all project expenditures. Any club that has not reported and properly expended their District Grant funds within 12 months will be ineligible for further grants of any kind until a proper accounting is made. Prior to the June 30th end of the Rotary year in which a grant was received, a satisfactory District Grant Status Report must be submitted to the District Stewardship Chair (Timothy Moran, GStew5710@gmail.com). Failure to adequately report on a grant will result in the club being ineligible to apply for or receive subsequent grants until all reporting is successfully completed.

**6. Document Retention:** The club must establish and maintain appropriate recordkeeping systems to preserve important documents related to qualification and TRF grants. Retaining these documents supports transparency in grant management and assists in the preparation for audits or financial assessments.

 A. Documents that must be maintained include, but are not limited to:

 1. Bank information, including copies of past statements

 2. Club qualification documents including a copy of the signed club MOU

 3. Documented plans and procedures, including:

 a. Financial management plan

 b. Procedure for storing documents and archives

 c. Succession plan for bank account signatories and retention of information and documentation

 4. Information related to grants, including receipts and invoices for all purchases

 B. Club records must be accessible and available to Rotarians in the club and at the request of the district.

 C. Documents must be maintained for a minimum of five years, or longer if required by local law.

**7. Reporting Misuse of Grant Funds:** The club must report any potential and real misuse or mismanagement of grant funds to the district. This reporting fosters an environment in the club that does not tolerate the misuse of grant funds.

**Authorization and Agreement**

*This memorandum of understanding is an agreement between the club and the district and acknowledges that the club will undertake measures to ensure the proper implementation of grant activities and proper management of Foundation grant funds. By authorizing this document, the club agrees to comply with all of the conditions and requirements of the MOU.*

*On behalf of the Rotary Club of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned agree to comply with all of the conditions and requirements of the MOU for Rotary year \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and will notify Rotary International District 5710 of any changes or revisions to club policies and procedures related to these requirements.*

**Club President Club President-Elect**

Term: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Term: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_