



Preliminary Application Packet

If you become the District 6290 Global Scholar, you will be expected to design and execute a Service Project related to one of Rotary International's 7 Areas of Focus (page 5, below; for more information visit <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-causes>). As part of your Preliminary Application in STAGE ONE, please attach a *conceptual outline* of the Service Project you would like to complete during your graduate work as a District 6290 Global Scholar. If you are able to provide your letter of acceptance to the university you plan to attend as a Global Scholar, submit it in Stage One; it is required for Stage Two. Students able to submit a letter of acceptance from the university where they intend to study will receive priority consideration in Stage One.

Preliminary Application Checklist for STAGE ONE: *(be sure all components are submitted together)*

- Completed Preliminary Application (below)
- Conceptual outline* of your proposed Service Project aligned with a Rotary International Area of Focus
- Resume
- 2 Letters of Recommendation
- Letter of acceptance from the university where I intend to study *(preferred in STAGE ONE; required in STAGE TWO)*

STAGE TWO – “CANDIDATE APPLICATION:” After completing Stage One (i.e., after a prospective student has been recommended to proceed to STAGE TWO), he/she will be invited by the District Global Scholar committee/Rotary International to complete and submit a Final Application and Service Project Proposal. ***Final completed applications are due by Monday, June 1, 2026.***

Final Application Checklist for STAGE TWO: *(be sure all components are submitted together)*

- Final Application
- Service Project Proposal
- Proposed budget (form provided with Stage Two Application)

District 6290 is honored to be able to offer this competitive scholarship to those in our district looking to pursue graduate study in one of Rotary International's 7 Areas of Focus: (1) Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution; (2) Disease Prevention and Treatment; (3) Water, Sanitation and Hygiene; (4) Maternal and Child Health; (5)



District 6290 Global Scholar Program

Stage One: PRELIMINARY APPLICATION

Thank you for expressing interest in the Rotary Global Scholar (GS) Program. This document (and the required attachments listed on page 2) are required for STAGE ONE of the application process. To help us ascertain your eligibility to proceed to the Final Application and to ensure you fully understand the Rotary scholarship process to become a Rotary Global Scholar, please complete this form and return to Dr. Rachel Sytsma-Reed at rachel@greatlakescfa.org as soon as possible. Completed applications are due no later than Monday, January 19, 2026; interviews will be conducted on a rolling basis.

Please review each statement below and check ALL that apply.

- I have (1) previous work experience, volunteer experience and/or education; (2) intended graduate degree studies; AND (3) future career plans that are related to one of the Seven Areas of Focus established by Rotary International. For further guidance, download [RI Areas of Focus Policy Statements](#).
- I plan to enroll in a graduate level program outside the United States, commencing in 2026 through June 30, 2027, and anticipate expending the scholarship funds within 12 months of starting studies.
- My study institution is in a geographic area that has a Rotary presence outside the United States. There are over 1.4 million Rotary members and 46,000 Rotary clubs within 529 Rotary districts around the world. Despite this extensive reach, there are some parts of the world that do not have a formal Rotary presence due to security, safety, or other issues. The RI District 6290 Global Scholars Committee can assist, if necessary, in making contacts.
- I am NOT (1) a Rotarian; (2) an employee of a club, district, or other Rotary entity, or of Rotary International; (3) the spouse, a lineal descendant (child or grandchild by blood or stepchild legally adopted or not), the spouse of a lineal descendant, or an ancestor (parent or grandparent by blood) of any person who has been in Rotary within the past three years.
- I currently work in, attend school in, or am a resident of District 6290. For further guidance, [click here](#). *Students who are residents of District 6290 will receive priority consideration.*
- I have, or will have, sufficient funds to cover any expenses throughout my scholarship time that exceed US \$30,000.
- I will complete an orientation and work with a designated Global Scholar Mentor to prepare for my program before traveling.
- I will undertake a humanitarian project related to my area of study and within one of the 7 Rotary Areas of Focus sponsored by the host Rotary club in my country of study.



Throughout the period of my scholarship, I will report my experiences on a regular schedule, no less than monthly (e.g., Internet blog, email to GS Committee, video).

I will complete all required reports during and after my scholarship time.

I will make a presentation about my scholarship experience to at least two Rotary clubs within one year after the completion of my scholarship program.

If I return to District 6290 after my scholarship, I will support the Global Scholars program; I am willing, should I be asked, to provide support by serving on the Rotary District 6290 Global Scholars Committee as a non-voting member for at least one year.

Prospective Candidate Profile

PERSONAL INFORMATION

First name: _____

Family name: _____

Citizenship: _____

Date of Birth (DD-MM-YYYY): _____

Sex: Male Female

YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: _____

Address: _____

(Mobile) Phone: _____

ROTARIAN CONTACT (IF YOU HAVE ONE)

Rotary Club: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____



PRIOR EDUCATION

List the two educational institutions you have most recently attended.

Most recently attended:

Institution: _____
City/State/Country: _____
Field of Study: _____
Degree Received: _____

Previously attended:

Institution: _____
City/State/Country: _____
Field of Study: _____
Degree Received: _____

Rotary International – 7 AREAS OF FOCUS

Your Global Scholar work must align with one of Rotary International’s 7 Causes, or Areas of Focus. What is your Area of Focus? (*Select the one that best fits your area of study.*)

- Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution
- Disease Prevention and Treatment
- Waste, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Maternal and Child Health
- Basic Education and Literacy
- Community Economic Development
- Supporting the Environment

Use this space to tell us in 1-2 sentences how your graduate work/program relates to the Area of Focus you selected. *NOTE: You will also be required to outline a Service Project concept related to this Focus – page 5.*



GRADUATE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Provide the following information about the academic program you plan to attend.

This is your FIRST-CHOICE academic program:

Name of College/University: _____

City and Country: _____

Language of region: _____

Language of instruction: _____

Website: _____

Academic Program: _____

Program Start Date: _____

Please email all Preliminary Application components to Dr. Rachel Sytsma-Reed, District 6290 Global Scholar Chair, at: rachel@greatlakescfa.org. Enter this information in the Subject Line: "Rotary Global Scholar Preliminary Application – [your name]."

If you have any questions, please reach out by email or **phone: 616.460.9392**.

The Preliminary Application deadline is midnight (Eastern) on Monday, January 19, 2026.

The Rotary Foundation and clubs invest in our future leaders and philanthropists by funding scholarships like the Global Scholars Program.

***Thank you for your interest in becoming the District 6290
Global Scholar for 2026-2027.***