



Rotary Vocational Scholarships District 6440 Vocational Scholarship Committee

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ROTARY DISTRICT 6440 2016 VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND REQUIREMENTS

OBJECTIVE

To provide educational opportunities for men and women in District 6440 who are preparing for careers that require **LESS THAN A FOUR-YEAR DEGREE** (Associate Degree, Diploma or Certificate) in order to enter into those careers and become successful and productive.

NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Approximately 16 scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 each will be awarded to full-time students enrolled in a vocational degree or certificate program at an accredited school. This award will be used for tuition only, **NOT** for fees, books, tools, supplies, food, travel or personal expense. Each club is allowed to submit two applicants. 10 of the 16 scholarships will be awarded to students attending non-profit educational institutions (Community Colleges) and the other 6 will have no such limitations.

The duration of the scholarship will be one year. Students must claim funds for the fall, spring or summer semester(s) in the year they won. Students are to submit enrollment notification and tuition bill immediately after registration. All funds from the scholarship will be paid directly to the institution in which they attend only.

ELIGIBILITY

- 1) High School Graduate, GED, or non-traditional student re-entering a vocational program
- 2) Be sponsored by a Rotary District 6440 Club (each club can sponsor two applicants)
- 3) Be accepted at a school of designation
- 4) Permanent residence in District 6440*

* **NOTE: Residing outside District 6440 for educational purposes is not a disqualification.**

TIME TABLE

Applications must be sent to the Rotary District 6440 Vocational Scholarship Committee by (CHANGED 3/10/15) **April 8th** of each year. Interview and selection results will be made available to the sponsoring club vocational chair and published on the District website.

ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST "Of the things we Think, Say or Do"

1. Is it the TRUTH? 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned? 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER Friendships? 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

The criteria for selection shall include but not be limited to:

- 1) First Priority would be aptitude in the chosen field as measured by:
 - A. High school or college grades related to chosen field. For example: Grades in auto mechanics for those entering that field or grades in business courses for those aspiring to be administrative assistants.
 - B. Employment experience in the chosen field. For example: Future auto mechanics working in a garage or future administrative assistants working in an office.
 - C. Volunteer work and extra-curricular activities, including leadership roles and honors in areas related to the chosen field. People aspiring to health fields might do volunteer work in a hospital; people aspiring to careers in the travel field might have completed a long trip; a person seeking to work in woodworking might have won some awards in competition, fairs, VICA or 4H, etc.
- 2) Second Priority would be indications that the applicant would make a good Rotary representative as measured by:
 - A. Participation in general extra-curricular activities in school or volunteer work in the community or has received awards in competition. For example: Speech contest, etc.
 - B. Character recommendations from people who know the applicant.
 - C. Overall grades and honors in school.
 - D. Interview rapport with Rotarians.
- 3) Letters of recommendation need to be geared to the particular applicant's readiness to successfully pursue the proposed vocation.

Important Notice:

Applicants must seek a local Rotary club to sponsor their application and make themselves available to be interviewed by the local club. Go to www.rotary.org and click on the club locator tab on the top of the web page to find information on the nearest local club. Enter 6440 in the District locator and you will find the 72 clubs that are in the northeast Illinois area.

Applications that do not include the required documentation and endorsement from a local Rotary club will not be accepted.

SUGGESTED CLUB SELECTION PROCESS

The Club Committee

Select your scholarship committee of two or three members from your club membership to seek out applicants, conduct interviews and sponsor scholarship candidates.

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Finding Applicants

Contact institutions attended by prior scholarship winners and/or local high schools and vocational campus' to encourage publication of Vocational Scholarship Applications. Ask financial aid counselors to advise prospective candidates to contact their local Rotary Club to seek sponsorship and / or to advertise for applicants.

Candidate Selection Actions Required

- Publicize the Vocational Scholarship Program and seek out qualified candidates.
- Set a date for review of all applications and screen to those to be interviewed.
- Notify candidates to be interviewed of date and time for interview with committee members.
- Select up to two applicants and submit their applications with supporting documents to the District Vocational Scholarship Committee by March 15 (final deadline).

Additional Awards

Clubs are encouraged to fund and make additional local awards to be given to candidates not winning district-level scholarships. The District Scholarship Committee will provide timely results to help local clubs in selecting non-winners for a local-level scholarship.

Applicant Preparation

Club selection committees should prepare applicants to be interviewed at the district-level. Make sure application is legible and applicants are introduced to and understand the nature of Rotary. Be certain all forms contain both printed and written signatures with current E-mail addresses to insure you receive updates on the outcome of the selection process. Applicants interviewed by passionate Rotarians fare better before the selection committee.

Recognition of Scholarship Winners

Recognize the district and local winners at your Rotary meeting. Invite parents to attend and provide a press release to the local media. The District will provide assistance in designing a Certificate for presentation upon request.

Special Note:

Because of staff limitations, the District Scholarship Committee must communicate with Assistant Governors, Club Presidents and Vocational Service Chairs primarily through email. Be sure your email includes name, address, and telephone and fax numbers.

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**VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION RATING FORM**

- 5 = Outstanding
- 4 = Strong Point
- 3 = Neither Strength nor Weakness
- 2 = Weakness
- 1 = Very Weak Area

Date _____

Student Name _____ Club: _____

Extra-Curricular Activities: _____

Comments:

Work Experience: _____

Comments:

Grades: _____

Comments:

SkillsUSA & Other Career-Related
Activities: _____

Comments:

Honors & Awards: _____

Comments:

References (Vocation-Related Preferred): _____

Comments:

Overall Ranking: _____

Comments:

Evaluated By
Rotarian: _____

Signature

Please Print Name

E-mail Address

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VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP INTERVIEW RATING FORM

Date: _____

Student Name _____

RATING	COMMENTS (Optional)
<i>Appearance:</i> _____	
<i>Enthusiasm:</i> _____	
<i>Products/Portfolio</i> _____	
<i>Leadership Examples:</i> _____	
<i>Organizational Ability:</i> _____	
<i>Knowledge of Chosen Field:</i> _____	
<i>Personality</i> _____	
<i>Honesty:</i> _____	
<i>Speaking Ability/Poise:</i> _____	
<i>Overall Interview:</i> _____	

SUGGESTED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- What have you accomplished in your chosen field that makes you proud?
- What experience has made a difference in your life?
- Why should we give you this award?
- What are your strengths and weaknesses?
- What would people, who know you, say about you?
- Why do you like your chosen field?
- What accomplishments do you have that are the most satisfying?
- What would a perfect employer look like?
- Who are your role models?
- What do you owe your employer?
- What motivates you?

Interviewed by		<small>Insert E-mail for notification of winning scholars</small>
Rotarian:	_____	
Signature	Please Print Name	E-Mail Address

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