



# Foundation Grants Seminar

## District Grants

**Carol Marcotte**  
**District Grants Coordinator**  
**Rotary District 7780**  
**2026 - 2027**

# What's New?

## **\*D7780 ClubRunner Grant Module**

*No more paper; Use Grant Module Portal*

### **\* Deadlines**

*Club Qualifications to be completed by **April 30**.*

*Grant Application completed and submitted by **June 1**.*

# The District Grants 5 Es: Objectives of this Seminar



## **ELECT or sELECT**

- Identify a Project for a District Grant

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- Learn how to qualify your Club to apply

## **ENGAGE and EVALUATION**

- Learn when and how to apply
- Learn how your Grant application will be evaluated

## **EXECUTE**

- Learn reporting and financial requirements

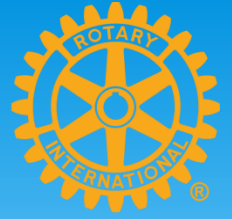
## **END**

- Stewardship and Grant close-out

# sELECT a Grant Project

*18 Grants are underway in 2025-2026*

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Foundation



## Examples of District Grants:

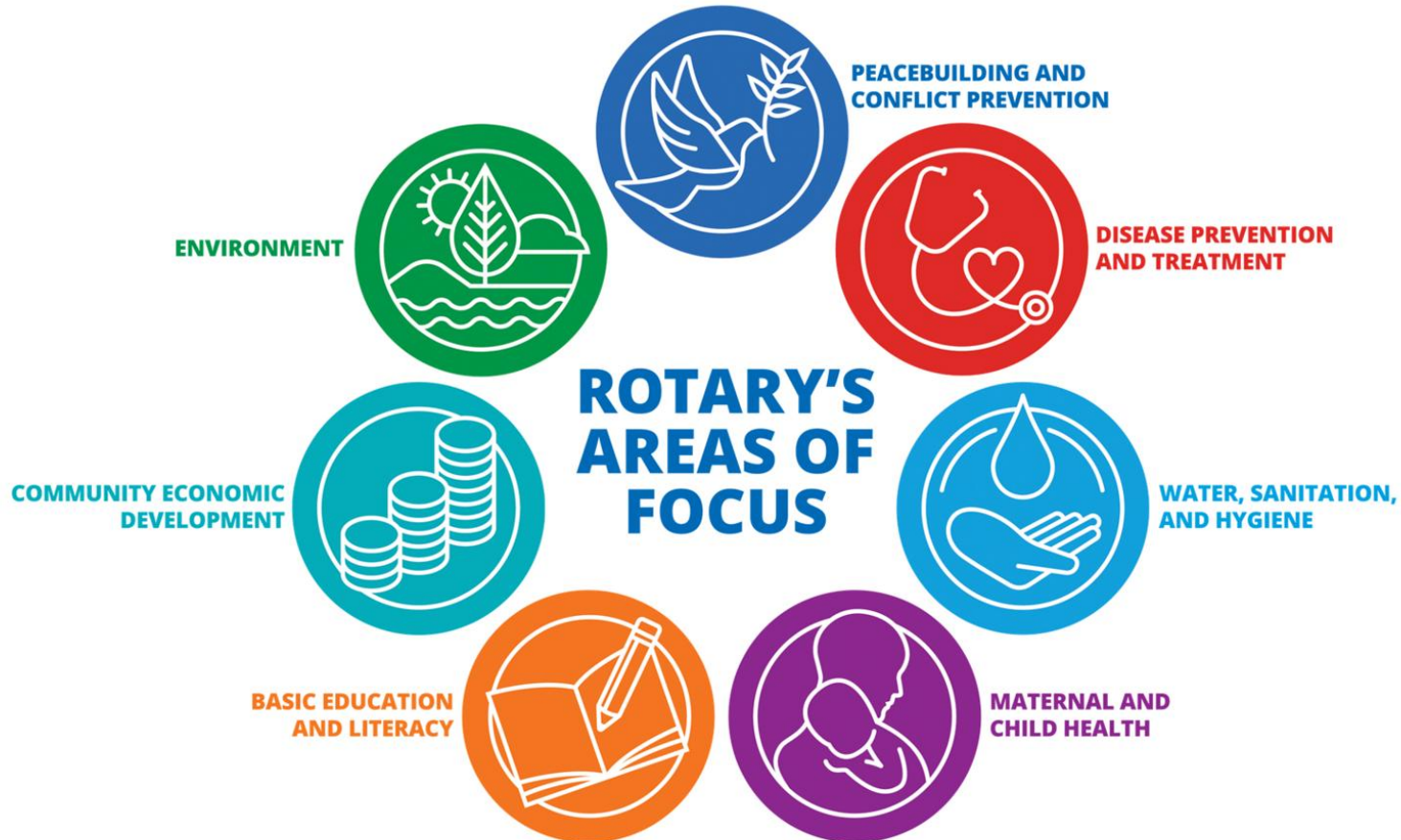
- Local Project to support those with food insecurity involving them in helping prepare nutritious inexpensive meals – Brunswick Coastal Rotary
- Local Project to launch a student led Peer Counseling and Mental Health Advocacy Program– Fryeburg Rotary
- Local Project - A new Pre-Kindergarten Program designed to provide high-quality early childhood education to our community's youngest learners - Kittery
- International Project to partner with a Rotarian ARK project - International Center for the Treatment of Mental Illness and Drug Addiction Among Young People – UNE Rotaract (*Saco Bay Sunset, Dover, Freeport, OOB Interact*)

*See list of Grants and project descriptions on D7780 Website, Foundation tab.*

# sELECT a Grant Project

18 Grants are underway in 2025-2026

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# sELECT a Grant Project

*18 Grants are underway in 2025-2026*

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## Attributes of a District Grant:

- Small-scale, short-term activities and projects that address needs in your community or a community abroad
- Humanitarian in nature typically addressing one or more areas of focus
- Led by Rotary with active Rotarian participation (tell us how many Rotarians from you Club and other Clubs who actively participated in this grant) \_ specific amount of Rotarians and hours involved.
- New to the Club that benefits and is sustainable to the community it serves

*See list of Grants and project descriptions on D7780 Website, Foundation tab.*

# ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

## Who can Participate in a 7780 District Grant



D7780 Rotary Clubs and Rotaract Clubs in good standing may apply for a District Grant.

[Connect the Dots](#)

# ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

## How are Grant funded?

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### How the Annual Fund (SHARE) Works

- Contributions to the **Annual Fund–SHARE** from Rotarians and clubs are split through The Rotary Foundation’s SHARE system.
- **50%** of those contributions are returned to our district **three years later** as **District Designated Funds (DDF)**.
- The remaining **50%** is directed to the **World Fund**.
- The **World Fund** is used to match and support **Global Grants worldwide**, including those sponsored by our district’s clubs.

# ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

## How are Grant funded? DDF

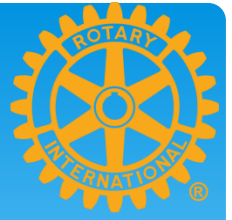


- District Designated Funds (DDF) are controlled by the district and may be used to support:
  - **District Grants**
  - **Global Grants**
  - Other Foundation-approved activities
- While 50% returns directly to us as DDF, our clubs may also access additional World Fund resources through successful Global Grant applications.
- For the current grant cycle, District 7780 has approximately **\$59,000 in DDF (SHARE funds)** available.
- Per district policy, **50% of our available DDF is allocated to support District Grants**, with the remaining portion supporting Global Grants and other Foundation priorities.

# ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

## How are Grant funded? DDF

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- Connect the Dots

# ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

## How to “Qualify” for a Rotary Grant

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1. A minimum of two (2) members must take the Grants Management Seminar.
2. Club must appoint a Club Foundation Chair and report name to District via input into ClubRunner (or otherwise inform District).
3. Club must establish a goal to support the Annual Fund and post in Rotary.org’s Rotary Club Central (your Assistant Governor can help you with this).
4. Club must be current with all District and RI dues and in good standing.
5. Club must be current with all Rotary Foundation grant reporting.
6. For this grant year 2026– 2027, the Club President **AND** either the Club President-Elect **OR** Club Foundation Chair must sign and implement the **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**.

*Club Qualifications must completed by **April 30**.*

# ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

## How to “Qualify” for a Rotary Grant

The  
**Rotary**  
Foundation



What is:

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

# EXECUTE

## How to Apply for a District Grant



1. Complete your District Grant Application via the D7780 ClubRunner Grant Module by June 1.
1. Available to Clubs- Soft Review-A soft review of a district Rotary grant is a light, preliminary check to ensure the grant generally meets Rotary guidelines before a full, formal review. (May soft submission of application – May 15.)
1. Clubs are encouraged to collaborate, with the Lead Club submitting the grant application. “Lead Club” is the submitter of the application although more than one D7780 club may be participating with the same grant. The Lead Club and all D7780 clubs involved must be qualified.
1. Project must adhere to the Terms and Conditions for Rotary Foundation Grants [\(this document link available on D7780 Foundation microsite - Resources\)](#).
1. Each club may submit only ONE District Grant application per Rotary year.

# EXECUTE

## Budget and Finance Clarification

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1. Club must contribute at least \$500 in club cash to the project (“small club” grant requires a \$100 contribution). This contribution is to be included in the total grant budget.
1. Budget must be balanced, clear and concise. Including sufficient detail so that the Screening Committee can understand it.
1. Award amounts in 2026-2027 will typically be in the \$1,000 - \$4,000 range. Please be reminded that award amounts are a function of the funds available and the number of applications. District grant funds available are based on donations made by District Rotarians to the Annual Fund Share in the Rotary year three years prior to the grant period you are applying for.

**BUDGET SUMMARY:**

Estimated or Total Project Budget Amount	\$5,000
Expected Income	\$1,000
Requested Grant	4,000
Expected Expenses	\$5,000

# EVALUATION



*Your application will be evaluated on:*

1. The quality of the Project will be measured by how the Applicant effectively demonstrates its positive impact on a local or international community, and the number of people benefiting from the project.
1. Projects must demonstrate active Rotary-member involvement and must be Rotary led.
1. Project must be new to the Club, lead to sustainability, and be meaningful to the community that it is intended to benefit.
1. Application must include a detailed promotional/public image plan in sufficient detail that the Screening Committee can understand it.
1. If grant funding is limited, *not only does the competition between the Applications increase but also other considerations may be considered such as a Club's previous commitment to the Annual Fund.*

# EVALUATION

*Who makes the decisions?*

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1. The applications are judged by a Screening Committee made up of Club Foundation Chairs from each District Area and chaired by the District Grants Coordinator.
2. The District Foundation Committee reviews the Screening Committee's recommendation to ensure that proper protocol has been followed and to determine the final approval. This will occur in June (working around the International Conference dates).
3. [District Grant 26 27 Application Evaluation Rubric](#)

# GRANT CYCLE

## *Deadlines and Reports*



1. Two (2) club members must complete this Grants Management Seminar as well as the other club eligibility requirements by **April 30**.
2. Application must be completed through the Grant Module no later than **June 1**.
3. Clubs will be notified of decision by mid/late July with funds likely distributed in early **September**. Process: Screening Committee, District 7780 Foundation Committee, Rotary International Grants Manager has final say and can ask for clarification or materials changes.
4. Reports on progress and closeout of the Grant are required!
  - Progress/interim report is due **February 1 (2027)**.
  - Final report is due **May 30 (2027)**. Final Report is to include reconciliation and receipts for all money spent and the return of any unspent funds. The Final Report will not be considered complete until all the grant monies are accounted for.

*(Please note: If necessary, the work on a project may continue after May 30.)*

# END

## Stewardship and Closeout

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Stewardship is the responsible management and oversight of Foundation funds, including:

1. Supervision of Rotarians involved with handling of funds.
2. Review of financial records. Records and receipts must be maintained for five (5) years.
3. Oversight of funds. *(These funds were donated for humanitarian purposes and must be treated appropriately.)*
4. Request permission from the District Grants Chair or District Foundation Chair if need/want to make changes.
5. Report any irregularities. *(A conflict of interest exists when a Rotarian benefits financially or personally from the grant.)*

# Resources

Carol Marcotte  
District Grants Coordinator,  
[carolmarcotte27@gmail.com](mailto:carolmarcotte27@gmail.com)

Aileen Dugan Chair,  
[aileen@aileendugan.com](mailto:aileen@aileendugan.com)

District Foundation microsite: Drop-down tab  
“Rotary Foundation & Grants” on  
[www.rotary7780.org](http://www.rotary7780.org)

Special Rules for International Travel  
See current Travel policies of The Rotary Foundation (detailed on the  
website)

