Yes, I know that clubs just got their checks for this year’s District Grants, but it’s time to start thinking about your club’s District Grant for the 2021-22 Rotary Year. This coming year District 5520 will have over $93,500 to distribute for district grants; this is about $5,000 more than we had to distribute this year and it’s the result of exceptional giving during the 2018-19 Rotary year.

How much could your club expect for a grant for the 2021-22 Rotary Year? Your club’s grant is based on your unrestricted Annual Program Fund (APF) giving during the 2018-19 Rotary Year AND whether or not your club achieves $100/capita THIS YEAR.

- Your minimum grant (baseline) will be 15% of your 2018-19 Annual Fund (AF) giving;
- AND, if your club achieves $100/capita (i.e., your 1 July 2020 membership * $100.00) THIS YEAR, you’ll get an equal share of the $40,000 “pot” with all other clubs that also achieved $100/capita…
- AND, because your club achieved $100/capita this year, you’ll also share in the “sweep-up” (i.e., all of the unclaimed district grant funds)…
- A “share” of the “pot” and the “sweep-up” typically is at least $2,000!
- If there are more funds available than clubs request, more appealing projects often receive a greater award. Therefore, ask for what you want and the Foundation Committee will distribute what they have.

Since it’s still early in the Rotary Year, no clubs have achieved $100/capita. We recommend that clubs submit their APF giving NO LATER THAN 1 June 2021 to ensure it reaches The Rotary Foundation in time.

So, what must you do to get a district grant? Your club must:

- Be in good standing with Rotary International and the District
- Be current on Rotary International and District 5520 dues
- Be current on all Global and District Grant reporting
- Be current on your IRS-990 reporting
- Have AT LEAST TWO members attend Grant Management Training (GMT) most of which will be online using Zoom. Registration for the six Zoom GMT sessions to held between 29 March and 14 April is available now on the District 5520 website.
- And, of course, complete the agreements and the project application

I have some questions:

- Where do I find how much we gave in 2018-19?
  - Access “FY22 District Grant Baselines” on the District 5520 website in the “Rotary Foundation” or ask District Rotary Foundation Chair (DRFC) Tom Walker, or District Grant Subcommittee Chair (DGSC) Peter Falley.
- Does my club have to match the district grant?
  - NO, but many clubs elect to add club funds to maximize their district grant project.
• When will my club find out if my grant has been approved and how much will we receive?
  o As part of the application process, you’ll be communicating with District Grant Subcommittee Chair Peter Falley who will be working with you to make sure that your application will comply with District and The Rotary Foundation (TRF) guidelines;
  o Once the District Grant Committee agrees on the club projects and their funding, it is converted into a “Spending Plan” and submitted to Rotary for approval;
  o Once TRF has approved the “Spending Plan” you’ll be notified as well as the amount of the grant.
• My project supports projects early in the school year; when will I receive my check?
  o Our goal is to complete the process so that checks will be mailed NLT the second week of July.
• When can my club start work on its project?
  o Your project must be approved by TRF before you can expend funds; starting work after TRF approval but before you have money in hand is a risk that you may choose to take.

For more information, contact DRFC Tom Walker (505-237-0237 or ftwalker1@comcast.net) or DGSC Peter Falley (575-388-2004 or falley@silvercityrotary.org).