



## ROTARACT MEMBERSHIP

Rotaract members are people of action who create lasting change — across the globe, in their communities, and within themselves. These young leaders are part of the Rotary movement to develop innovative solutions to the world's most pressing challenges. Working together, more than 1.4 million Rotarians and Rotaractors in more than 46,000 clubs are bringing positive change to communities worldwide.

### A DISTINCT MEMBERSHIP TYPE

The 2019 Council on Legislation amended the constitutional documents of Rotary International to include Rotaract clubs as a distinct membership type of Rotary International, intended for younger professionals. This action elevates Rotaract from its former designation as a program and positions Rotary for a future that is innovative, inclusive, and adapting to the world around us. [Learn more](#) about these changes to Rotaract.

#### Effective 1 July 2020:

- Rotaract clubs are able to establish a new club with or without a sponsor, and choose other Rotaract clubs as their sponsors.
- Rotaract clubs are open to all young adults at least 18 years old. A Rotaract club may, but is not required to, set an age limit, if the club (in accordance with its bylaws) gets the approval of its members and, if applicable, its sponsor club.
- Rotary districts are encouraged to include Rotaractors in every district committee.
- Rotaract Clubs are eligible recipients of the Significant Service Award, and Rotaractors are eligible recipients of the Service Above Self, Avenues of Service, The Rotary Foundation District Service, the Citation for Meritorious Service, and Distinguished Service Awards.
- Rotaractors remain eligible to receive global grant scholarships and Rotary Peace Fellowships.

#### Effective 1 July 2022:

- Rotaract clubs are expected to begin paying annual dues to Rotary International of \$5 per member for university-based clubs and \$8 per member for community-based clubs. The one-time fee for chartering a new Rotaract club will be eliminated. The timing and logistics of the invoice process are in development.
- Rotaract clubs will be able to be either international or host sponsors of global grants, if they have previously partnered with a Rotary club on a global grant. No rights or privileges that Rotaractors had as participants of a Foundation program will be revoked.
- Rotary districts may allocate district grant funds to Rotaract clubs. To support this change, Rotary districts can begin including Rotaract clubs in their district grant planning as early as January 2022.

### A LOOK AT ROTARACT

Rotaract membership has been growing steadily year over year and now tops 220,000 members. And as Rotary strives to engage more women throughout the organization, Rotaract clubs already report that half of their members are women. Rotaractors are a young adult demographic, with an average age of 25 years old.

More than 10,000 Rotaract clubs are serving in 180 countries/geographic areas and 510 districts, with 70% as community-based clubs and 30% of clubs based at universities.

Rotaract members are emerging experts in their fields, tackling social challenges in their communities, trying new approaches to solve problems, and skillfully using social media to expand our reach. They are forming new and flexible club models and represent diverse communities.

Rotary's latest research indicates that a majority of Rotaract members join for community service and friendship, while personal growth, career development, and professional connections are also important to them.

## **ROTARY AND ROTARACT CLUBS**

Whether enrolled in college, starting a new career, or becoming active in the community, Rotaractors add another dimension to our membership and are equal and valued partners in service alongside Rotarians. Rotary clubs are encouraged to build effective, ongoing relationships with Rotaractors by inviting them to collaborate on club and district activities, including service projects, global grants, fundraising events, member engagement activities, and mentorship programs. Rotaractors are an important voice in district committees and activities as well.

## **NEXT STEPS**

In the coming year, Rotary International will continue making updates to materials and processes to support Rotaract as a membership type with an Elevate Rotaract Operational Plan. Our goal is to remain focused on membership sustainability while ensuring strong operational support for future growth of Rotaract.

## **USE INCLUSIVE MEMBERSHIP LANGUAGE**

When we talk and write about our membership, we need to do so in a way that includes Rotaract. Here are some ways we do this:

- **If we're referring to RI's membership (including Rotaract)**, we use "Rotary members" rather than "Rotarians." We can also say "our members," "our clubs," "clubs and districts," or "people of action."
  - When we want to be more specific, we can use "Rotary and Rotaract members" and "Rotary and Rotaract clubs."
- **If we're talking about the larger Rotary community**, we use "members and participants" or "the family of Rotary" to create a wider view of Rotary affiliation.
- **When we need to distinguish between the membership types**, it's OK to say "Rotaractors" and "Rotarians." For example: *Whether they are enrolled in college, starting a career, or becoming active in their community, Rotaractors are equal and valued partners in service alongside Rotarians.*

## **FIND OUT MORE**

For the Elevate Rotaract Operational Plan:

- Sr. Director of Programs and Member Services [Nora Zei](#)
- Director of Membership Development [Brian King](#)

For Rotaract club and district support, contact [rotaract@rotary.org](mailto:rotaract@rotary.org).

## **Resources**

Learn about innovative service projects led by Rotaract clubs in the 2021 [Rotaract Outstanding Project Awards](#).

Rotaract clubs can create club logos and find promotional assets on [Rotary's Brand Center](#).

Follow [Rotaract](#) on Facebook to stay connected on social media.