

Rotary International
District 6860
2015-16 Rotary Scholar Grant
General Information



Jerry Shepherd

District Governor, 2014-15

Carol Argo

District Rotary Foundation Chair, 2014-17

Don Wiginton

Global Grants Chair 2014-15

Dear Rotarians,

We are seeking candidates for a Rotary Global Scholar Grant for 2015-16. Past global scholars from our district include Salvatore Minopoli who completed his studies at King's College, London earning a Master's degree in Conflict, Security and Development; Harmonie Adams who completed a master's degree at the University of Edinburgh in Medical Anthropology; and Meghan McCollum who will complete studies in Cities and Culture at Queen Mary, University of London in September 2014.

Our district's contribution toward a global scholarship will be matched dollar for dollar by The Rotary Foundation World Fund and the minimum award is \$30,000 but may be higher. Previous scholar awards have ranged from \$38,469-\$42,667. District 6860 makes every effort to fund the entire academic cost for a year abroad.

Included in this packet is important information for guiding clubs in: (1) their decision-making regarding possible sponsorship of a candidate, (2) the grant proposal process, and (3) club obligations for supporting and preparing a candidate for study abroad. Additional pertinent information relevant to both the sponsoring club and applicants interested in pursuing a scholarship is included in appendices.

Information in this packet will be posted on the district's website. Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you might have.

Don Wiginton

Rotary District 6860

District Global Grants Chair

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A Rotary Overview

- Rotary International (RI) was founded in Chicago in 1905 by Paul P. Harris; it is the world's oldest professional service organization.
- Rotary has more than 1.2 million members serving in more than 34,380 clubs in over 120 countries worldwide. In addition, there are Rotaract Clubs for young adults (9,899 clubs; 227,677 members) and Interact Clubs for high school students (15,570 clubs; 358,110 members).
- The Rotary Foundation (TRF), the grant-funding arm of RI was founded in 1917 as the Rotary Endowment Fund; its name was changed to The Rotary Foundation in 1928.
- The motto of TRF is "To Do Good in the World."
- The Rotary scholarship program – Ambassadorial Scholars and Rotary Global Scholars – is the largest privately funded scholarship program in the world.
- Rotary's signature humanitarian effort since the mid-1980s has been the eradication of polio. The RI PolioPlus campaign has partnered with UNICEF, WHO, the CDC and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to eradicate this crippling disease. Contributions by Rotarians now exceed \$500 million and the organization is within one percent of total eradication.

General Information

- **A Rotary Global Scholar Grant** funds graduate study in an accredited institution outside of the United States. The applicant must study in an academic field that clearly supports one or more of the Six Areas of Focus embraced by The Rotary Foundation. A goal of TRF is to develop, over time, a core of highly educated scholars whose long-range career plans include efforts to meet the challenges of solving the world's most critical humanitarian needs.
- The Applicant may **NOT** be (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 descendent, or an ancestor (parent or grandparent by blood) of any person in the foregoing two categories.
- The Applicant(s) must have an International Sponsor, which is a local U.S. TRF-qualified Rotary Club in a TRF-qualified District where the scholar resides or is attending school. The Applicant(s) must meet with and be interviewed by the International Sponsor Rotary Club, which will decide which Applicant(s) it will sponsor for a grant. Normally, a local Rotary Club will sponsor only one Applicants, but in no circumstances more than two at one time. Once a club identifies its Applicant(s), and before it begins any scholar preparation, the Applicant(s) must contact the District Global Grant Chair (Don Wiginton) who will work with the Applicant(s) to secure a Host Sponsor in the international Rotary District of study. A Host Sponsor and an acceptance to a graduate program is required **before** any application material can be submitted to TRF.
- The Host Sponsor is a local TRF-qualified Rotary Club in a TRF-qualified Rotary District where the Applicant seeks to study. The Host Sponsor acts as a mentor to the scholar, assists in acclimating the scholar to the local culture, assists the scholar in getting settled into his/her studies, invites him/her on occasion to the Host Rotary club (possibly to speak), and includes the scholar in the social and service activities of the club as the scholar's studies permit.
- It is the responsibility of the International Sponsor (the local Rotary Club sending the applicant) to instruct its Applicant(s) on the mission and goals of Rotary International (RI), on the mission and goals of The Rotary Foundation (TRF), on the Six Areas of Focus, on the structure of the TRF Global Grant program, to assist the Applicant(s) in developing the grant application for submission to TRF, and to submit the completed application through the My Rotary portal on TRF's website.
- Before a scholarship application can be submitted to TRF for funding review, the Applicant must provide a letter of acceptance of admission to an accredited graduate program in a university of choice in a TRF-qualified Rotary District which meets program requirements for fulfillment of Rotary's guidelines on study as outlined in the Areas of Focus Statements of Purpose and Goals. A conditional offer of admittance, based on scholarship funding by Rotary, is acceptable in lieu of a formal acceptance, and confirmation of a Rotary Host Sponsor must be on record.
- The standard duration of a scholarship is consecutive terms within a single academic year (possibly including a summer term) though not to exceed 12 months, and cannot be extended once approved.

- The successful Applicant must meet all components for a global scholar as outlined in the Terms and Conditions for Rotary Foundation District Grants and Global Grants.

Budget

The minimum Global Scholar Grant award is \$30,000 but may be higher. Previous awards have ranged from \$38,486 - \$42,677. Budget items include tuition, room and board, airfare to and from location of study, student visa costs, local transportation during the period of study, books and school fees, and other relevant costs. The applicant's Sponsoring Rotary Club can assist with the process of putting together a detailed budget. The budget must be complete before application submission. Once funded, a scholarship cannot be increased in value.

Club Selection and Proposal Process

- The International Sponsor Rotary Club interviews its Applicant(s) and chooses one, but no more than two to nominate. Applicants must be placed in contact with Don Wiginton, Global Grants Chair for District 6860, who will assist in securing a Host Sponsor in the District of study.
- The club works with its Applicant(s) of choice to prepare submission of a grant application. It is critically important that any applicant be well-informed about Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation and their missions and goals before submitting an application for funding.

Timeline for Selecting a Global Scholar

September – October 2014 District 6860 will advertise the grant opportunity; clubs may also elect to advertise in their community. Clubs establish a Scholarship Committee for receiving letters of interest and placing potential applicants in touch with Don Wiginton, Global Grants Chair for the district. Applicants will be directed to online links for the Global Scholar Packet for pertinent information about the grant process. Local clubs will interview applicants and make a determination of sponsorship.

November 2014 Each Sponsoring Rotary club submits candidate(s) Scholar Candidate Application Forms (Appendix 7) and proof of admission to the Global Grants Chair.

December 2014 – February 2014 Individuals selected to submit a grant application for funding review will be prepared by their Sponsoring club. An application cannot be submitted until acceptance to a graduate program has been received by the Applicant. Initiation of study must begin within six months of notification of funding. Rotary Global Scholars are required to attend orientation for study abroad if a local program is available. Otherwise, is requirement is met through an online orientation process.

Appendices

- 1. Contact information for District Officers**
- 2. Guidelines for Sponsorship of a Rotary Global Scholar, 2015-16**
- 3. Mission Statements and Mottoes of RI and TRF**

- 4. Areas of Focus Policy Statements**
- 5. Terms and Conditions for Rotary Foundation District Grants and Global Grants**
- 6. Rotary Scholar Flier**
- 7. Scholarship Candidate Application**