FACTS ABOUT ROTARY SCHOLARSHIPS

The Rotary Foundation has a rich history of funding scholarships for undergraduate and graduate study in a wide range of academic fields. Clubs and districts can create their own scholarships and fund them with district grants for any level of studies or with global grants for graduate studies in an area of focus.

District Grant Scholarships

District grants can be used to sponsor secondary school, undergraduate, or graduate students studying any subject, either locally or abroad. In addition, the scholarship may cover any length of time — from a six-week language training program to a year or more of university study. Districts may ask scholars to make presentations to local Rotary clubs and participate in Rotary service projects, but such involvement is not required by the Foundation.

The district is responsible for all administrative support for district grant scholars. No host counselor is provided for international district grant scholars. Districts may request assistance from Rotarians in the area where the scholar will be studying, but those clubs are under no obligation to act as hosts. It is recommended that districts appoint a scholarships subcommittee chair to manage the logistics of identifying and approving candidates, making payments, and coordinating with the district in which the scholar will be studying.

Read more about district grant scholarships.

Global Grant Scholarships

Global grants support scholarships for graduate students studying abroad in one of the six areas of focus. Scholarships range from one to four years and therefore can include an entire degree program. Prospective scholars must show proof of admission to the chosen university before the grant will be approved.

Global grant scholars are expected to participate in club or district activities before, during, and after the scholarship.

Global grant scholarships are funded using cash and/or the District Designated Fund, matched by the World Fund. The global grant budget must total at least US$30,000, but a scholarship may be a component of a larger grant application — for example, a scholarship plus a humanitarian project.

Read more about global grant scholarships.
UNESCO-IHE Scholarships

The Rotary Foundation offers a limited number of scholarships annually for water and sanitation professionals to study at UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education in Delft, the Netherlands. Rotary clubs and districts interview applicants who have been admitted to the institute in one of three master’s degree programs and recommend scholarship candidates.