**GUIDELINES FOR ROTARY CLUB SPONSORSHIP**

**OF A ROTARY GLOBAL SCHOLAR**

**The Global Scholar Application Process**

Global Scholars are funded through Global Grants, and the general Global Grant requirements apply to Global Scholars. The global scholarship application is an online process through the Grant Center on the Rotary International website.

Clubs wishing to nominate a scholar for consideration must consult with the D5190 Scholarship Chair. Normally the District will consider supporting one or two Global Scholars per Rotary year, subject to authorization by the District Governor and the availability of District Designated Funds (DDF).

**The sponsoring Rotary Club has an obligation to prepare the scholar nominee by providing information about Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation. A working knowledge of Rotary is key in the application process, as it is the responsibility of the scholar to demonstrate that TRF funding of a post-graduate scholarship will advance both the applicant’s long-term career goals and those of RI and TRF.**

All Global Scholars must study in a country outside of the U.S. The sponsor Rotary Club must be a qualified club under TRF guidelines. The club must be knowledgeable about and familiar with the Terms and Conditions for Rotary Foundation District Grants and Global Grants and instruct the nominee in the appropriate sections on scholarships. The sponsor club and the scholar nominee must be knowledgeable and familiar with the TRF Board of Trustees’ Areas of Focus Statements of Purpose and Goals. The scholar nominee’s proposed course of study must be directly connected with one or more of the Six Areas of Focus. The scholar’s biggest challenge in the application process will be demonstrating to TRF that the nominee’s career goals and course of study synch with the goals of the Area of Focus selected by the applicant. It is best to focus on only one of the six choices. It is especially beneficial if the program has courses directly or very closely related to the applicant’s Area of Focus.

Once the District approves a scholar nominee, it is the responsibility of the District Grants Chair to work with his/her counterpart in the country of study to verify that the Rotary District is TRF-qualified, and to assist with identification of an international Host Rotary Club, which must also be TRF-qualified. Before the Club formally submits an application for District Scholarship Committee review, the following must be provided:

 A **letter of acceptance** from the university/college of choice or a letter from the university/college indicating acceptance pending award of a scholarship.

 A **detailed budget**. Once a budget has been accepted, the scholar nominee cannot increase the budget. Use of funds cannot be altered without permission from TRF. The decision to fund or decline is the prerogative of TRF and is final.

**CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Must be qualified under TRF Guidelines.
2. Must establish a 3-person Scholarship Committee, preferably separate from the club committee that awards club scholarships.
3. Club must provide $2,000 toward the Global Scholarship.
4. Interview applicant(s) and choose one for sponsorship – the applicant must meet Rotary guidelines for eligibility. Place the applicant in immediate contact with the District Grants Chair, who will verify qualification of the District in which the graduate institution is located and the Rotary Club that will serve as a Host.
5. The club is the International Sponsor and must appoint a club member as a Sponsor Counselor responsible for working with the scholar through the application process to ensure a working knowledge of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation, their mission and goals, and also ensure the applicant is aware of the Areas of Focus and is clear on how the applicant’s intended long-term career goals incorporate the Area of Focus and Rotary’s humanitarian focus.
6. Consider if financial support for the applicant to complete the application process is necessary. This may include assistance with the cost of application to a graduate program. Consideration of any financial support is not a TRF requirement and is the exclusive prerogative of a sponsoring club based on availability of club funds.
7. Where possible invite the applicant to visit your club, meet the members, and participate in club activities.
8. As with other Global Grants, the club must establish a dedicated bank account with two Rotarian signatories to receive the grant funds. The club is also responsible for planning and conveying to the scholar how the funds will be disbursed.