

2016-2017 Rotary Graduate Scholarship Application

The Rotary Club of Austin is pleased to offer a scholarship opportunity for graduate students pursuing an advanced degree in a discipline that aligns with one or more of Rotary's six Areas of Focus:

- Peace and Conflict Prevention/ Resolution
- Maternal and Child Health
- Disease Prevention and Treatment
- Basic Education and Literacy
- Water and Sanitation
- Economic and Community Development

Preferred academic programs include those that

- (1) Focus on grass-roots economic development strategies
- (2) Focus on addressing economic issues of poor and underserved communities;
- (3) Support social business development, such as a tailored track within a Masters of Business Administration program

Programs that will not be favorable considered include those that

- (1) Focus on purely theoretical or macro-level economics
- (2) Support general private business development, such as a masters of business administration

The scholarship amount available for 2016-2017 is **\$2,500**. Applicants must submit this application along with the designated essays, school transcript, and 2 letters of recommendation by **January 23, 2016**. Two applicants will be selected for interviews, to be held in March 2016. The recipient will be announced in April 2016.

Completed Applications should be submitted to:

**Rotary Club of Austin
301 East 8th Street
Austin, Texas 78701**

For questions, please contact: Ellen Hunt at ephainc@gmail.com.

SECTION 1 – APPLICANT INFORMATION

a. Contact Information

Family Name: _____ First Name: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Secondary Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Preferred contact method: _____

b. Education

List the two educational institutions you have attended most recently.

Name of Education Institution	Major Degree Earned or Expected	Date From	Date To
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

c. Proposed Academic Program

Details Name of Institution: _____

Location (city and Country): _____

Institution's Web Site: _____

Academic Program: _____

Official Language(s): _____

Anticipated Start Date: _____

Anticipated End Date: _____

d. Areas of Focus and Goals

With which of Rotary's Areas of Focus does your proposed program of study align?

Please check the appropriate box:

☐ **Peace and conflict prevention/resolution**

Scholars in this area are expected to study ways to prevent and mediate conflict, and to support peace-building in communities and regions affected by conflict.

Preferred academic programs include conflict prevention/resolution peace and justice studies and international relations or law with a specialization in peace and conflict;

- a. Programs that will be considered favorably include those that focus directly on peace and conflict issues;
- b. Programs that will not be considered favorably include those that relate to general international relations or law.



Maternal and child health

Scholars in this area are expected to study ways to improve the health of mothers and their children by:

- a. Reducing the mortality and morbidity rate for children under the age of five;
- b. Reducing the maternal mortality and morbidity rate;
- c. Improving access to essential medical services, trained community health leaders and health care providers for mothers and their children.

Preferred academic programs include epidemiology, nutrition, global health, public health, and health promotion and degrees in nursing and medicine.



Disease prevention and treatment

Scholars in this area are expected to study ways to prevent disease and promote health by:

- a. Improving the capacity of local health care professional;
- b. Promoting disease prevention programs, with the goal of limiting the spread of communicable diseases and reducing the incidences of and complications from non-communicable diseases;
- c. Enhancing the health infrastructure of local communities;
- d. Educating and mobilizing communities to help prevent the spread of major diseases;
- e. Preventing physical disability resulting from disease or injury.

Preferred academic programs include public health, advanced degrees in nursing and medicine.



Basic education and literacy

Scholars in this area are expected to study ways to ensure that all people have sustainable access to basic education and literacy by:

- a. Involving the community to support programs that strengthens the capacity of communities to provide basic education and literacy to all;
- b. Increasing adult literacy in communities;
- c. Working to reduce gender disparity in education.

Preferred academic programs include education, literacy, curriculum development, special education, and school administration.



Water and sanitation

Scholars in this area are expected to study ways to ensure that people have sustainable access to water and sanitation by:

- a. Providing equitable community access to safe water, improved sanitation and hygiene;
- b. Strengthening the ability of communities to develop, fund and maintain sustainable water and sanitation and sanitation systems;
- c. Supporting programs that enhance communities' awareness of the benefits of safe water, sanitation and hygiene.

Preferred academic programs include water science/engineering, water management, environmental science, epidemiology, and parasitology.



Economic and community development

Scholars in this area are expected to study ways to invest in people by creating sustainable, measurable and long term economic improvements in their communities and livelihoods by:

- a. Building the capacity of entrepreneurs, community leaders, local organizations, and community networks to support economic development in impoverished communities;
- b. Developing opportunities for productive work;
- c. Reducing poverty in underserved communities.

e. Essays

- Explain how your program of study relates to your selected Area(s) of Focus. What past education or experience has led to your interest in this particular program at this institution? [Limit 500 words]
- Describe your educational and professional goals, including your career plans, and how your chosen program of study will help to advance these goals. What community needs will your work address during or after completing this program? How will your work contribute to addressing this need on a long-term basis? [Limit 500 words]

SECTION 2 – REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- a. **RECOMMENDATION FORMS (2):** Forms are attached. After completion, request the Endorser send the form to the Rotary Club of Austin at the address provided above.
- b. **TRANSCRIPTS:** Please provide all official transcripts that apply to your attendance at the two institutions you listed in Section 1 above.

SECTION 3 – APPLICANT’S CERTIFICATION

I certify that I am eligible to apply, understanding that persons in the following categories are ineligible:

- a. A Rotarian or Honorary Rotarian;
- b. An employee of a Rotary club or district, of Rotary International, or of another Rotary-affiliated entity;
- c. A spouse, a lineal descendant (child or grandchild by blood or adoption), a spouse of a lineal descendant, or an ancestor (parent or grandparent by blood) of any living person in the foregoing two categories; and
- d. That Rotarians and their relatives as described above remain ineligible for 36 months after resignation.

I understand and agree that I am solely responsible for gaining admission to the college or university that I want to attend.

Applicant’s Signature

ACADEMIC/EMPLOYER RECOMMENDATION

SECTION I – To be completed by the applicant.

Name of Applicant

I ____ waive ____ do not waive my right to access information on Part II of this Recommendation Form.

Signature of Applicant

SECTION II – To be completed by an academic instructor or employee/supervisor.

1. In what capacity and how long have you known the applicant?

2. How firm is the applicant's commitment to his/her proposed field of study?

3. How would you rate the applicant in the following areas? If you are unable to evaluate an area, please leave it blank.

	Exceptional	Very Good	Average	Below Average	Poor
Leadership					
Initiative					
Seriousness of Purpose					
Enthusiasm					
Adaptability					
Maturity					
Emotional stability					
Public Speaking					
Community service					

4. Please cite specific examples of how the applicant has demonstrated the qualities listed in question 1.

Name Title of Position

Signature Date

Institution/Company

Telephone Fax E-mail Address

Please return completed evaluation to:

**Rotary Club of Austin
301 East 8th Street
Austin, Texas 78701**

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