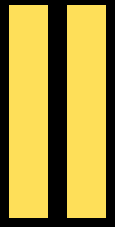




democratising access to higher education

Workshop on the Rotary Scholarships
Saturday, 22 April 2023



Outline

- Project EduAccess
- Meet your Panelist
- Overview
- Eligibility
- Application Process
- Application Form and Supporting Documents
- Essay Questions
- Interview
- Questions



Project EduAccess

Access to higher education is a privilege most people from marginalised communities are systematically denied through cost, information and dispositional barriers.

Project EduAccess is a modest attempt to improve inclusivity in HEIs by removing these barriers for marginalized communities in South Asia.

We hope to achieve this by providing expert mentorship, support and guidance to learners in South Asia.

Meet your panelists



Janani Ravindran

MSc in Water Management and Governance
IHE Delft Institute for Water Education
Recipient of Rotary Scholarship for Water and Sanitation Professionals 2021-23



Overview

- Rotary Scholarships, funded by the Rotary Foundation, support graduate studies in **Rotary's Areas of Focus**:
 - Promoting peace
 - Fighting disease
 - Providing clean water, sanitation, and hygiene
 - Saving mothers and children
 - Supporting education
 - Growing local economies
 - Protecting the environment
- Types of scholarships:
 - **Specific Rotary clubs and districts** offer scholarships for graduate study. You will have to contact the relevant club/ district for application information and eligibility requirements.
 - The Rotary Foundation also offers the **Rotary Peace Fellowships** for candidates who want to participate in a master's degree or certificate program on **peacebuilding and conflict resolution** at one of their six partner universities.
 - Scholarships are also offered through strategic partnerships between Rotary and partner institutes like the **IHE Institute for Water Education**.



Eligibility

- Rotary Districts have the flexibility to design the scholarships they would like to offer and to define the general scope of each scholarship. Therefore, please check each district's website carefully as the following factors may differ from district to district:
 - Location of studies (within your district or region, in another country)
 - Level and/ or type of studies (secondary, vocational, undergraduate, graduate studies)
 - Type of sponsorship (an outbound scholar from the district; an inbound scholar funded by your district but identified by a different district, based on your district's eligibility criteria)
 - Length of the study program (one semester, one academic year, full undergraduate or graduate degree program)
 - Field of study, research, or vocational training
 - Basis for funding (financial need, academic merit, a combination of the two)
 - Amount of scholarship award (fixed, within a certain range, open amount based on the scholar's application)



Eligibility

- Candidates are usually expected to provide proof of university admission at the time of application. Conditional admission offers are accepted only when the school requires a financial guarantee or completion of undergraduate degree, and not if admission is contingent on improving language scores.
- Districts may determine other eligibility requirements, such as:
 - Minimum academic level and performance
 - Financial need, for example, an income below a certain level
 - Geographic location, for example, residency or full-time work or study within the district
 - Language proficiency (language of the study country or of instruction)
 - Strong public speaking and interpersonal communication skills
 - High ethical standards demonstrated in their personal, academic, or professional lives
 - Knowledge of local, regional, and international current events, as well as the culture and history of the sponsor and host communities
- Depending on the district, students in receipt of a Rotary Scholarship may not be prohibited from applying to or receiving funds from other scholarship schemes.



Eligibility

- Typically, the following are **NOT eligible** to receive Rotary Scholarships:
 - Rotarian or honorary Rotarian
 - **Employee of a Rotary Club or District of Rotary International or of another Rotary-affiliated entity**
 - Spouse, lineal descendant (child or grandchild by blood, adopted or not adopted) a spouse of lineal descendant, or an ancestor (parent or grandparent) of any living person in the above two categories.
- **Districts may also expect applicants to:**
 - Make presentations at Rotary club or district meetings and events, both before and after the study program
 - **Submit a written report or keep an online journal to document their achievements and experiences or to give feedback about the scholarship**
 - Become involved with Rotary in the community where they will study, for example, by attending Rotary club meetings, speaking to Rotaract clubs, or participating in service projects



Application Process

- Each district will specify how applicants may submit their application materials — **by email, online application forms, paper copies, etc.**
- The **application process may differ depending on the type of scholarship** you're applying for.
 - In some cases, you may have to approach your Rotary Club in advance and ask them to nominate you for a Rotary Scholarship. Once they agree, you will have to **work with your Rotary Club to fill your application form** and apply for a grant with the Rotary Foundation.
 - For other Rotary scholarships, you may be able to **apply directly with your Rotary District** for a local grant.
- Some districts **may shortlist applicants for an interview**, and decide on the outcome of your application depending on your performance at the interview.



Application Form and Supporting Documents

- Typically, applicants are asked for the following information through the application form:
 - Personal details
 - Language skills (spoken and written proficiency)
 - Academic qualifications (including name of institution, degree received, place of study, field of study and GPA)
 - Details of graduate program (including name of institution, start and end date)
 - Proposed budget (including tuition & fees, local housing, supplies, airfare, and visa fees)
 - Details of other sources of funding, if the scholarship does not cover all expenses involved
- Typically, applicants are asked for the following supporting documents:
 - CV/ Resume
 - Recommendation letters
 - Evidence of expenses involved
 - Evidence of other sources of funding available
 - Copy of your offer of admission
 - Copy of official transcript from your university



Essay Questions

Typically, applicants are expected to answer the following essay prompts in 500 words or less:

- List the classes you plan to take and provide any relevant links to information about the program. Explain how the program and courses align with Rotary's goals in the selected area of focus and your future career plans.
- How does your previous and current educational, professional, and/or volunteer experience align with Rotary's goals in the selected area of focus?
- What are your professional and/or academic plans immediately after the scholarship period?
- How do your long-term professional goals align with Rotary's goals in the selected area of focus?



Interview

- Districts may choose to conduct **interviews**. The district should make it clear, at the start of the process, whether in-person or live videoconference interviews are required and, if so, the date and time for them.
- In addition to confirming a candidate's eligibility, an interview enables you to determine whether the candidate has:
 - **Excellent leadership skills and potential**
 - A proven record of success in their academic field or vocation
 - **A commitment to community service**
 - Well-defined and realistic goals
 - **Concrete ideas for advancing within their chosen field**
 - Sincerity about maintaining a lifelong relationship with Rotary after the scholarship period

Stay Connected

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Other ways to get in touch

