

The Basics: District Grants for 2016-17

What is a District Grant?

A District Grant is a Rotary Foundation grant which matches Rotary Club funds to support projects that benefit local communities, fund scholarships and exchange teams or an international project.

The Highlights of the District Grants program for 2016-17:

- Total District Grant monies available for the 2016-17 Rotary year: \$87,000
- Projects are funded on a 2-for-1 match basis; that is, we will match \$2 for each \$1 spent in club funds.
- A club could have more than one grant request, but total project reimbursements must not exceed more than \$3,000 per club.
- Priority: Clubs with a \$100 per capita giving to the Annual Fund
- To increase the likelihood of a project being funded, clubs should plan and apply as early as possible.

<u>Important:</u> In order for a Rotary club to participate in Foundation grants, it is required to have at least one representative attend the Grants Management Seminar offered at the District Training Assembly on May 7 and sign a Memorandum of Understanding.

District **Foundation Giving Guidelines** are followed in order for Rotary Clubs to qualify for and receive first consideration for District Grants. For the 2016-17 Rotary Year, the minimum contributions per-capita for clubs will be \$100/member.

Minimum contributions will be based upon the average amount that a club's members contribute to the Annual Fund (AF) of the Rotary Foundation for the previous Rotary Year, as reported in its Monthly Contribution Report.

Applications from clubs with AF contributions averaging less than \$100 per member will be tabled until it is determined that all clubs who meet the minimum requirements have applied for District Grant funds.

The rationale for tabling these requests is that clubs with contributions at or above the target level should reasonably benefit first from their support for the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund.

Several steps are required before clubs can be reimbursed for projects:

- 1. Again this year, all District Grant applications will be made online, using the application process accessible through DaCdb via the Rotary District 6110 website (RotaryDistrict6110.org). To begin the application process, go to the DaCdb home page and click on "Grants," then "Club Grants" and then follow directions.
- 2. Funding applications will be accepted by District Grants Committee from July 1 to December 31, 2016.

 Note: Projects may be approved for funding until allocated monies run out.
- 3. Clubs must complete the project.
- 4. All project expense receipts must be retained by the club to ensure full reimbursement.
- 5. The club should complete and sign the online Final Report and attach copies of project-related expense receipts, as well as publicity generated by the project.
- 6. All 2016-17 projects must be completed and final reports filed online by December 31, 2017.

Important Highlights for 2016-17

District Grants can now fund the following:

- Rotary Programs: RYLA, Youth Exchange, Rotaract, Interact

 Note: Lineal descendants of Rotarians may not benefit from the use of grant funds.
- Construction (including low-cost or storm shelters)
- Travel for staff of cooperating organizations on humanitarian projects
- Activities primarily implemented by an organization other than Rotary in which there is active Rotarian participation (not for operating expenses or salaries of the other organization)
- Scholar/Vocational Training Team orientation and grant management training seminars

The types of projects that are **ENCOURAGED**:

- Those that result from the club's assessment of a community or international need
- New projects reflecting variety and creativity
- Projects being actively carried out by Rotarians
- Those projects satisfying real humanitarian, education and literacy, health, and peace and conflict resolution needs of local and international communities
- Rotary projects promoted in the local media and which display the Rotary Emblem

The types of projects that are **NOT APPROVED**:

- Purchase of land or buildings i.e., bricks and mortar
- Monetary support (simply writing checks/donations) for the operating and other expenses of nonprofits
- Renovations of structures for commercial enterprises
- Funding pass-through projects, that is, making purchases for non-profit organizations and donating them without the purchase being part of a Rotary volunteer-based project, or making direct cash contributions to other organizations.

For additional information, please contact: Barney Tonquest, Chair

District Grants Committee

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