

Cultural Ambassadorial Scholarships

Ambassadorial Scholarships support approximately 800 students studying abroad annually and introduce scholars to the cultures of over 70 different countries. They have created a worldwide network of over 37,000 alumni and have empowered students to improve international understanding for over half a century.

Rotary Clubs in Montana will award one Cultural Ambassadorial Scholarship of US\$10,000 awarded for three months of intensive language study and cultural immersion abroad. The three-month scholarship is most appropriate for studying a foreign language in which the applicant may already be somewhat proficient. Funding is intended to defray costs associated with round-trip transportation, tuition and fees for language training, and homestay expenses. Scholars will stay with local families when possible.

The Ambassadorial Scholarships program supports the vision of The Rotary Foundation to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by:

- . Increasing awareness of and respect for cultural differences by sending ambassadors of goodwill to study in another country
- . Instilling in scholars the Rotary ideal of Service Above Self through active participation in Rotary service projects
- . Encouraging scholars to dedicate their personal and professional lives to improving the quality of life for the people of their home communities and countries
- . Developing leaders who can address the humanitarian needs of the world community
- . Impacting all areas of the world through a balanced geographical distribution of scholars
- . Encouraging Rotarians worldwide to increase the educational opportunities for scholars from low-income countries
- . Fostering a lifelong association between Rotary and its scholars

During the study period, scholars are expected to be outstanding ambassadors of goodwill to the people of the host country through appearances before Rotary clubs and districts, schools, civic organizations, and other forums. After study has been completed, scholars share their experiences with the people of their home countries and Rotarians who sponsored their scholarship.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must have completed at least two years of university or college course work, or must have a secondary school education and have been employed in a recognized vocation for at least two years when the scholarship begins. All applicants must be citizens of a country in which there is a Rotary club. Applicants must initially apply through a Rotary club located in the area of their legal or permanent residence, or place of full-time study or employment. Persons with disabilities and members of Rotaract clubs are eligible and encouraged to apply.

The following persons are ineligible for any Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship:

A Rotarian; an honorary Rotarian; an employee of a club, district, or other Rotary entity or of Rotary International; a spouse, lineal descendant (child or grandchild), a spouse of a lineal descendant, or an ancestor (parent or grandparent) of any living person in the foregoing categories.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applicants must contact a local Rotary club to sponsor their application. Club-endorsed candidates will compete at the district level, and district-endorsed applications will be forwarded to the Foundation for Trustee approval and study institution assignment. Applications sent directly to the Foundation without club and district endorsements will not be considered.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

The deadline for applications to be received from the clubs to the district is August 31. The approved and selected applications have to be in to Rotary International by October 1. A recipient intending to travel abroad sometime after 1 July 2009 but before 30 June 2010 would need to apply in 2008. More information may be found at www.rotary.org or by contacting Dr. Clyde Neu, 5756 Prospect Drive, Missoula, MT 59808 or e-mail epic@bresnan.net