

District 5630 Rotary International Youth Exchange Scholarship

Valued at \$13,000 - \$51,000

Application Procedure for the 2020-2021 Exchange

The forms referred to appear on the District 5630's Youth Exchange website: www.5630rye.org

- 1) **Complete the PRELIMINARY APPLICATION.** (A more in depth application will be required for those who are awarded A Rotary International Study-Abroad Scholarship)
- 2) **Provide the CONFIDENTIAL SCHOOL REFERENCE form to your school counselor, teacher or administrator** – have one of them complete the form and mail it directly to Paula Witt, Rotary District 5630 Youth Exchange Chairman, 614 W 10th Street, Hastings, NE 68901 or e-mail directly to wittinc@icloud.com
- 3) **Submit your Preliminary Application, two (2) Letters of Recommendation to Paula Witt, District Chair by OCTOBER 15, 2019.** All applications should be submitted digitally to this email address. This is a Rotary-Sponsored program. If selected, you will be sponsored by your local Rotary Club members. If you do not know who to contact at your local Rotary Club, email Paula Witt at wittinc@icloud.com
- 4) Your local Rotary Club will schedule initial interviews with student applicants and their parents in late October. Successful applicants will advance to District Interviews scheduled November 16-17, 2019, in North Platte, Nebraska.
- 5) District Interviews will be held on Saturday, November 16th. Student applicants and their parents **MUST PARTICIPATE** in these interviews. **As part of District Interviews, applicants will be required to give a 3-4 minute speech about themselves and their community.** An overnight lock-in and social activity is scheduled for all applicants along with current in-bound exchange students from other countries. All applicants are invited and encouraged to attend this activity. The interview events will conclude approximately 9 AM on Sunday November 17th.
- 6) Students will be notified by December 1st whether or not they have been selected for the District 5630 Rotary International Youth Exchange Scholarship for the 2020-2021 academic year.
- 7) Upon notification of scholarship award, students should immediately begin the process of obtaining a passport. If the student already has a passport, the expiration date must extend a minimum of 6 months beyond August, 2021. **DO NOT POSTPONE APPLYING FOR A PASSPORT.** A copy of the student's SIGNED passport MUST accompany the expanded application due on January 15th. Failure to do so will result in the rejection of the application.
- 8) If selected, students must complete the expanded Rotary Youth Exchange Scholarship **International Application 2020-2021** form , *2 copies, each with ORIGINAL SIGNATURES*).
 - **ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE IN BLUE INK AND DATED.** Students may complete the first copy of the application and then make one copy. Then the student may present both copies to the people who must sign the documents.
 - **Each person must sign each copy of the application** in blue ink. If the student's parents are divorced, regardless of custody arrangements, **BOTH** parents must sign the application. custody arrangements, **BOTH** parents must sign the application.
 - **IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO OBTAIN THE REQUIRED SIGNATURES FROM THE SPONSORING ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS.**

- 9) Both copies of the expanded Rotary Youth Exchange Scholarship : International Application must be completed and received **before January 15, 2020.** Email one copy to wittinc@icloud.com.

To:

*Paula Witt
Rotary District 5630 Youth Exchange
Chair 614 W 10th Street
Hastings, NE 68901*

and
wittinc@icloud.com

- 10) Successful Students and their parents are required to participate in
- 3 on-line **webinars** scheduled for **January 19th, March 15th and April 5th** (Sunday evenings 8-9:00pm).
 - **Outbound Student and Parent Orientation February 8-9, 2020, in Grand Island, NE** to learn about Rules of the Rotary International Youth Exchange Scholarship Program, expectations and other requirements of the Rotary Program, serving as an international Rotary ambassador, making travel and visa arrangements, youth protection in the Rotary Program and living in a different culture. Students will meet and interact with current exchange students as well as past exchange students during lock-in and overnight activities.
- 11) Student's country requests will be determined by the availability of an exchange partner in the selected country. Exchange matches are generally completed during December-January. Students will be notified as soon as their match is confirmed by the Rotary International Exchange Officer in the selected country. Student preferences are pursued but cannot be guaranteed.
- 12) Students will also be encouraged to attend the **Rotary District 5630 Annual Conference May 1-2, 2020** in Kearney, NE. (Exact schedule TBA).
- 13) Scholarship recipients will also attend Outbound Camp, a 5-day camp that prepares them for the Rotary Scholarship International Exchange experience. The camp is scheduled for late June, 2020 in Siloam Springs, Ark. All expenses and travel arrangements are covered for this final training experience.
- 14) Students must sign a contract to follow the rules for Rotary International Youth Exchange. All information provided must be truthful and complete, especially as related to depression and anxiety. Such details may not disqualify a student for selection, but could affect **where** students can be placed. Students may be required to sign a similar agreement for their host district. Failure to follow the rules of Rotary Youth Exchange will result in the early termination of the student's exchange and he/she will be sent home.

Rotary International Youth Exchange Study Abroad Scholarship

District 5630 Flat Fee: \$6,000 includes

- Parent and student preparation for study abroad program
 - On-line webinars (January, March, April)
 - Outbound Orientation weekend (February)
 - Outbound Camp (5 days) in June
- High school tuition in foreign high school
- Room and Board with 1-3 pre-approved host families
- Cultural and Language immersion
- Monthly Rotary stipend (approximately \$75-100/month: in local currency)
- Health and Liability insurance
- Visa fees
- Travel agency fees
- Round-trip travel (with guaranteed immediate return if necessary)
- Language learning resources
- Local support and counselor and supervision
- Rotary shirt, exchange pins and business cards
- Rebound Camp (debriefing and support for cultural return)
- Life-long opportunities to engage with other exchange students
- Life-long benefits of being a member of the Rotary International family