Rotary World Peace Fellowships

The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International
Do you want to change the world? Here’s how.

Rotary World Peace Fellows are leaders promoting national and international cooperation, peace, and the successful resolution of conflict throughout their lives, in their careers, and through service activities. Fellows can earn a master’s degree in international relations, public administration, sustainable development, peace studies, and conflict resolution, or a related field, or a professional development certificate in peace and conflict resolution.

Alumni work in a range of areas, including grassroots and local nongovernmental organizations, national governments, the military, police, and bilateral and international organizations such as the United Nations, World Bank, International Organization for Migration, and Organization of American States. Graduates of the program also enjoy the support of a growing worldwide network of fellow alumni committed to building peace.

Through the Rotary Centers program, The Rotary Foundation and Rotarians can increase their effectiveness in promoting greater tolerance and cooperation among peoples, leading to world understanding and peace.

Strengthening Today’s Leaders to Build Peace

“The Rotary World Peace Fellowship has given me a platform that will enable me to dedicate myself to the important challenge of international conflict prevention and peace-building in the future.”

— Anna Pehrsson (Universidad del Salvador), Desk Officer, Department for Security Policy, Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden
Funding

Rotary World Peace Fellowships fund either master’s degree or professional development certificate study at one of the six Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution at seven universities worldwide.

Fellowship funding includes

- Tuition and fees
- Room and board
- Round-trip transportation
- Internship (master’s degree) or field study expenses (professional development certificate)

Rotary World Peace Fellows must locate funds to pay for all expenses that are not specifically funded by their fellowship, such as mandatory health insurance (excluding the certificate program that covers this expense) and visas.
"I was working in conflict situations for over 10 years but never had the technical know-how of dealing with conflict until now. The innovations learnt have further widened my scope of the understanding of conflicts and how to deal with them to achieve a peaceful goal. My challenge now will be focused on how to render the DRC a conflict-free zone."

— Abdulai Jalloh (Chulalongkorn University), Logistics Officer, United Nations, Democratic Republic of the Congo

**GENERAL ELIGIBILITY**

Applicants for the Rotary World Peace Fellowships should have

- A commitment to international understanding and peace, demonstrated through their professional and academic achievements and personal and community service activities
- Bachelor's degree or equivalent in a related field with strong grades at the time of application
- Minimum three years’ combined paid or unpaid full-time relevant work experience for the master's degree program
- Minimum five years’ relevant work experience with current full-time employment in a mid- to upper-level position for the certificate program
- Proficiency in a second language for the master's program or proficiency in English for the certificate program
- Excellent leadership skills

The following persons are ineligible for Rotary World Peace Fellowships: (a) a Rotarian, an honorary Rotarian; (b) an employee of a club, district, or other Rotary entity or of Rotary International; (c) a spouse, lineal descendant (child or grandchild by blood or legal adoption), spouse of lineal descendants, or ancestors (parent or grandparent by blood) of any living person in the categories (a) or (b); and (d) former Rotarians and their relatives as described above within 36 months of resignation.

Persons with disabilities and Rotaract members are eligible and encouraged to apply.
This course is a rare and valuable opportunity for all of us in the peace community, due to the sheer presence of distinguished experts and knowledgeable participants. The socialization activities among participants around the world automatically leads to the establishment of a peace-building network which will strengthen future cooperation, understanding, and mutual respect.

— Petchara Pliensiri (Chulalongkorn University), Justice Affairs Analyst, Ministry of Justice, Thailand
“I think the Rotary community and support is something that also distinguishes the Rotary (World) Peace Fellowship from other scholarships — it also helps you to integrate in the local society and get much more from this great experience.”

— Zuzana Stiborova (University of California, Berkeley), Junior Diplomat, Czech Permanent Mission to the United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland
APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES

Application Process

STEP 1 – CLUBS
Applications submitted to local Rotary clubs

STEP 2 – DISTRICTS
Club-endorsed applications sent to Rotary districts

STEP 3 – THE ROTARY FOUNDATION
District-endorsed applications sent to The Rotary Foundation for processing

STEP 4 – COMMITTEE
Participants selected in a world-competitive process by the Rotary Centers Selection Committee

Applications are available from the RI Web site at www.rotary.org/rotarycenters.

Each district will set its own application deadline to comply with The Rotary Foundation’s deadline and may endorse as many applicants to the world competition as it deems qualified. Each district must submit its candidate applications to the Foundation by 1 July annually for the upcoming master’s degree study year and upcoming January and June certificate program sessions.
Selection and Assignment

Up to 100 Rotary World Peace Fellows will be selected each year. Ten fellows on average are assigned to each Rotary Center offering a master’s degree, and up to 25 fellows are assigned to each session of the professional development certificate program. Fellows will be assigned to study at a Rotary Center located in a country other than that of their citizenship or permanent residence, with the exception of Japanese citizens interested in enrolling at the Rotary Center in Japan, or Thai citizens interested in enrolling in the Rotary Center in Thailand.

Rotary World Peace Fellows are chosen based on their ability to have a significant, positive impact on world peace and conflict resolution during their careers.

Admission and Study Schedule

Rotary World Peace Fellows are responsible for gaining admission to their assigned Rotary Center university partner for master’s degree programs. Final admission decisions for the professional development certificate rest with the selection committee, as these fellows do not need to apply to the university for admission.

Fellows begin their studies at different times, depending on the academic schedule of their assigned Rotary Center host institution. Northern Hemisphere Rotary Centers master’s degree programs will begin in July, August, or September. Southern Hemisphere Rotary Centers master’s degree programs will begin in the following February or March. The three-month certificate program has two sessions per year: January-April and June-August. Please refer to the university’s Web site or www.rotary.org/rotarycenters for detailed information on each Rotary Center’s program.
The opportunity to study and explore peace and conflict in Bradford, and all of the people I have met, have left me inspired and committed on this road of working for peace and justice in our world.”

— Christina Bischoff (University of Bradford), Project Coordinator, The Anchor Project, England
“The goal of the (Rotary World) Peace Fellowship is to get students out of their comfort zone, into a different country, and equip them with the skills they need to return to their homes and pursue work in international development and conflict resolution. . . . Rotary is once again striving to achieve nothing short of world peace and understanding.”

— Andrea Fanta (University of Queensland), Representative, Department of Economic and Community Development, State of Tennessee, USA