



# Vocational Service

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Vocational Service is one of Rotary's Avenues of Service. Vocational Service calls every Rotarian to:

- aspire to high ethical standards in their occupation;
- recognize the worthiness of all useful occupations, and;
- contribute their vocational talents to the problems and needs of society.



# Classification

When professionals join a Rotary club, they do so as a representative of their classification – their particular business or profession.

Rotarians have the dual responsibility of representing their vocation within the club and exemplifying the ideals of Rotary within the workplace.





# Ethics

One of the central goals of Vocational Service is to promote and advance Rotary's high ethical standards. Two useful tools Rotarians have to assess these standards are The Four-Way Test and The Declaration of Rotarians in Business and Professions.

## DECLARATION OF ROTARIANS IN BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS



As a Rotarian engaged in a business or profession, I am expected to:

- 1) CONSIDER my vocation to be another opportunity to serve;
- 2) BE FAITHFUL to the letter and to the spirit of the ethical codes of my vocation, to the laws of my country, and to the moral standards of my community;
- 3) DO ALL in my power to dignify my vocation and to promote the highest ethical standards in my chosen vocation;
- 4) BE FAIR to my employer, employees, associates, competitors, customers, the public, and all those with whom I have a business or professional relationship;
- 5) RECOGNIZE the honor and respect due to all occupations which are useful to society;
- 6) OFFER my vocational talents: to provide opportunities for young people, to work for the relief of the special needs of others, and to improve the quality of life in my community;
- 7) ADHERE to honesty in my advertising and in all representations to the public concerning my business or profession;
- 8) NEITHER SEEK from nor grant to a fellow Rotarian a privilege or advantage not normally accorded others in a business or professional relationship.





# Vocational Service & RI Programs

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Several of RI's programs offer opportunities to exercise Vocational Service, including:

Rotary Volunteers: *put your vocational talents to work on a service project*

Rotary Fellowships: *start or join a vocational fellowship group*

RYLA: *teach young people leadership skills*

Rotary Friendship Exchange: *conduct vocational exchanges with Rotarians in other parts of the world*



# Project Ideas

- Classification talks at club meetings
- Tours of members' businesses
- Community career fairs and workshops
- Mentor young people
- Promote ethical behavior in business
- Volunteer your vocation
- Create a vocational award program





# Vocational Service Month

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Every October, Rotarians are encouraged to focus their attention on vocational service. Vocational Service Month is an opportunity to begin year-long vocational service activities, ranging from Rotary discussions to awards to community projects.





# Resources

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The following resources can be found by visiting [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org):

- Find general information on Vocational Service and the other Avenues of Service
- Download a promotional flyer for Vocational Service Month
- Subscribe to the free *Vocational Service Update* electronic newsletter (produced quarterly)
- Search for examples of successful vocational service projects, or add your own project to RI's ProjectLINK database





# Support

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District governors are asked to appoint a district Vocational Service chair to coordinate and promote vocational service activities within the district.

To identify your district Vocational Service chair, or for any other questions, contact RI Staff at:

RI Programs Division

Tel: +1(847)866-3460

Fax: +1(847)556-2182

E-mail: [vocationalservice@rotary.org](mailto:vocationalservice@rotary.org)