

## CLUB QUALIFICATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

### ~~~~~ THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

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#### 1. Club Qualification

To obtain qualification, the club must agree to implement the financial and stewardship requirements in this memorandum of understanding (MOU) provided by The Rotary Foundation (TRF) and to send at least one club member to the district's grant management seminar each year. A club must be qualified to receive global grants, corporate social responsibility (CSR) grants, and programs of scale grants. Club qualification is not required for a club to receive district grant funds. The district may also establish additional requirements for club qualification and/or require its clubs to be qualified in order to participate in district grants. By completing these requirements, the club becomes qualified and eligible to participate in Rotary grants.

- A. Upon successful completion of the qualification requirements, the club will be qualified for one Rotary year.
- B. To maintain qualified status, the club must comply with this MOU, any additional district requirements, and all applicable TRF policies.
- C. The club is responsible for the use of funds for club-sponsored grants, regardless of who controls the funds.
- D. Qualification may be suspended or revoked for misuse or mismanagement of grant funds involving, but not limited to: fraud; forgery; membership falsification; gross negligence; endangerment of health, welfare, or safety of beneficiaries; ineligible contributions; use of funds for personal gain; undisclosed conflicts of interest; monopolization of grant funds by individuals; report falsification; overpricing; acceptance of payments from beneficiaries; illegal activities; use of grant funds for ineligible purposes.
- E. The club must cooperate with any financial, grant, or operational audits.

#### 2. Club Officer Responsibilities

The club officers hold primary responsibility for club qualification and the proper implementation of TRF grants.

Club officer responsibilities include:

- A. Appointing at least one club member to implement, manage, and maintain club qualification
- B. Ensuring that all TRF grants adhere to stewardship measures and proper grant management practices
- C. Ensuring that all individuals involved in a grant conduct their activities in a way that avoids any actual or perceived conflict of interest

### **3. Financial Management Plan**

The club must have a written financial management plan to provide consistent administration of grant funds.

The financial management plan must include procedures to:

- A. Maintain a standard set of accounts, which includes a complete record of all receipts and disbursements of grant funds
- B. Disburse grant funds, as appropriate
- C. Maintain segregation of duties for handling funds
- D. Establish an inventory system for equipment and other assets purchased with grant funds, and maintain records for items that are purchased, produced, or distributed through grant activities
- E. Ensure that all grant activities, including the conversion of funds, comply with local law

### **4. Bank Account Requirements**

In order to receive grant funds, the club must have a dedicated bank account that is used solely for receiving and disbursing TRF grant funds.

- A. The club bank account must:
  - 1. Have a minimum of two Rotary member signatories from the club for disbursements
  - 2. Be a low- or noninterest-bearing account
- B. Any interest earned must be documented and used for eligible, approved grant activities, or returned to TRF.
- C. A separate account should be opened for each club-sponsored grant, and the name of the account should clearly identify its use for grant funds.
- D. Grant funds may not be deposited in investment accounts including, but not limited to, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, bonds, and stocks.
- E. Bank statements must be available to support receipt and use of TRF grant funds.
- F. The club must maintain a written plan for transferring custody of the bank accounts in the event of a change in signatories.

### **5. Report on Use of Grant Funds**

The club must adhere to all TRF reporting requirements. Grant reporting is a key aspect of grant management and stewardship, as it informs TRF of the grant's progress and how funds are spent.

### **6. Document Retention**

The club must establish and maintain appropriate recordkeeping systems to preserve important documents related to qualification and TRF grants. Retaining these documents supports transparency in grant management and assists in the preparation for audits or financial assessments.

- A. Documents that must be maintained include, but are not limited to:
  - 1. Bank information, including copies of past statements
  - 2. Club qualification documents including a copy of the signed club MOU
  - 3. Documented plans and procedures, including:
    - a. Financial management plan
    - b. Procedure for storing documents and archives
    - c. Succession plan for bank account signatories and retention of information and documentation
  - 4. Information related to grants, including receipts and invoices for all purchases
- B. Club records must be accessible and available to Rotary members in the club and at the request of the district
- C. Documents must be maintained for a minimum of five years, or longer if required by local law

### **7. Reporting Misuse of Grant Funds**

The club must report any potential and real misuse or mismanagement of grant funds to the district. This reporting fosters an environment in the club that does not tolerate the misuse of grant funds.

## **8. District 7980 Supplemental Requirements**

- A. The President and President Elect for 2025-2026 must authorize this MOU. In so doing they accept responsibility for managing the Club Officer responsibilities as specified above. Should the Club not have a President Elect for 2025-2026, or if the President and President Elect are the same individual, another elected officer of the club must authorize in place of the President Elect. The MOU must be authorized by two distinct individuals.
- B. In order to qualify for District Managed Grants (DMG), in addition to authorizing this MOU, the Club must meet the following requirements:
  - i. Establish a Rotary Foundation Annual Fund fundraising goal for 2025-2026 in Rotary Club Central. It is recommended, but not required, that the club have a Club Rotary Foundation Committee to promote contributions to The Rotary Foundation and to promote participation in grant programs.
  - ii. Be up to date in reporting for all active DMG's.
- C. Each DMG must meet the following requirements:
  - i. The Primary Contact for each DMG must complete DMG Primary Contact training and be certified as a trained DMG Primary Contact by the District Foundation Steward before the DMG application can be submitted for review.
  - ii. Each DMG and DMG-funded Scholarship must be aligned with one or more of the seven Rotary Areas of Focus: Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution; Disease Prevention and Treatment; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene; Maternal and Child Health; Basic Education and Literacy; Community Economic Development; Support the Environment.
  - iii. All expenditures related to an approved DMG must be made in accordance with the budget approved by the District Grant Sub-committee and documented with receipts.
- D. In Lieu of section 4c, above, it is adequate for the club to maintain one checking account, but to have separate ledger accounts for grant receipts and expenditures, and to submit the documentation supporting District Managed Grant receipts and expenditures to the District Grants committee along with the District Managed Grant Final Report in a timely fashion; and for the club to retain copies of such records in accordance with Section 6, above.

### Authorization and Agreement

*This memorandum of understanding is an agreement between the club and the district and acknowledges that the club will undertake measures to ensure the proper implementation of grant activities and proper management of TRF grant funds. By authorizing this document, the club agrees to comply with all of the conditions and requirements of the MOU.*

*On behalf of the Rotary/Rotaract Club of \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned agree to comply with all of the conditions and requirements of the MOU for Rotary year **2025-2026** and will notify Rotary International District **7980** of any changes or revisions to club policies and procedures related to these requirements.*

Club President	
Term	
Name	
Signature	
Date	

Club President-elect	
Term	
Name	
Signature	
Date	