



Group Study Exchange District Application for program year 2009-10

Application for District _____

The Group Study Exchange (GSE) program provides travel grants to paired Rotary districts in different countries to exchange teams composed of four to six non-Rotarian professionals (ages 25-40) and a Rotarian team leader. Team members live in local Rotarians' homes wherever possible and follow a carefully prepared itinerary throughout the host district. Team members observe their host country's professional, commercial, and industrial operations; systems of government; and education, health, welfare, and social institutions.

Important

- Districts in good standing may apply for a World Fund Award to send one GSE team every year, regardless of the district's contributions to The Rotary Foundation.
- Group Study Exchanges may be carried out in one program year, both sending and receiving a team in the same year.
- World Fund Awards are not accumulable from year to year and cannot be donated to another district.

Additional GSE Award

In any program year, districts may opt to make a District Designated Fund (DDF) allocation through *SHARE* to cover the expenses of the exchange. The cost for one district to send a GSE team using DDF is US\$11,000 (or \$6,000 for a Neighboring Country GSE). Exchanges may be carried out in one program year, both sending and receiving a team in the same year.

Funding must be allocated in the *SHARE* system at the time the district applies to send a GSE team through DDF.

For further details on the *SHARE* cycle and various GSE options available, refer to the *District Rotary Foundation Committee Manual* (300-EN) or contact the *SHARE* system coordinator at The Rotary Foundation.

The Rotary Foundation Trustees make every effort to pair districts sending GSE teams through *SHARE*. However, if such a pairing is not possible, the appropriated DDF will be returned to your district's *SHARE* account for future use.

Districts may apply to send a maximum of two GSE teams per program year. One GSE District Application must be completed and submitted for each GSE team.

FINDING AN INTERNATIONAL PARTNER

Districts are encouraged to arrange a GSE pairing in advance. However, if you are unable to secure a partnership before the 1 October deadline, the Trustees will match your district with an appropriate partner based on pairing history, availability, and geographical preferences. To prearrange a GSE partnership, you should contact your district governor-elect (DGE) counterpart to express your interest and seek a commitment. Send e-mails and photos to the DGE or GSE chair of potential partner districts, promoting points of cultural, geographical, historical, and vocational interest in your district. DGEs may also use the Member Access feature on the RI Web site to contact their counterparts. Only districts that have reciprocally listed each other in section III (Prearranged Partnerships) will be confirmed as partners — do not list potential or preferred partner districts that have not agreed to a pairing with your district.

When seeking a GSE partner, consider

- A partner district that is culturally different from your own (e.g., high-income country vs. low-income country, or region where another language is spoken or customs may be significantly different)
- A partner located in a geographic area that your district has not been paired with recently
- Your district's international service goals and objectives when identifying target districts
- Districts with similar industries or social concerns that the GSE team can focus on (e.g., local agriculture, the challenges of urban violence, or public health)

All World Fund and DDF applications must be submitted by 1 October 2008 to:



Group Study Exchange Department
The Rotary Foundation
One Rotary Center
1560 Sherman Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201-3698 USA
Telephone: 847-866-3330
Fax: 847-556-2143



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SECTION I – Award Type

Select the World Fund or DDF funding option below. Please complete one application per team that your district wishes to send.

World Fund Option

My district requests a World Fund Award to send a GSE team in the 2009-10 program year.

District Designated Fund (DDF) Option – Additional GSE (select one)

My district has chosen to use (check one)

_____ US\$11,000 of DDF to send a GSE team

_____ US\$6,000 of DDF to send a GSE team to a neighboring country

My district has received a full donation from our partner district in the amount of (check one)

_____ US\$11,000 to send a GSE team

_____ US\$6,000 to send a GSE team to a neighboring country

My district has received a split donation from our partner district in the amount of (check one)

_____ US\$5,500 of DDF to cover half of our GSE team’s expenses

_____ US\$3,000 of DDF to cover half of our GSE team’s expenses to a neighboring country

AND

My district has chosen to use (check one)

_____ US\$5,500 of DDF to pay for the remaining half of the expenses of sending our GSE team

_____ US\$3,000 of DDF to pay for the remaining half of the expenses of sending our GSE team to a neighboring country

SECTION II – District Planning

Purpose and Goals of the Exchange

Describe how a Group Study Exchange will assist in achieving your district’s service goals.

Team Accommodations

Describe your plans for accommodating the visiting team in your district (during the tour and rest days, etc.). Rotarians’ homes are the preferred option.

Rotarians’ homes Hotel Other _____

If your district is unable to provide homestay accommodations during the majority of the tour, please provide an explanation.



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SECTION III – Prearranged Partnerships

My district has arranged a GSE partnership with District _____ (country) _____.

I understand that for the pairing to occur, the proposed partner must also request my district on its application.

The Trustees cannot approve requested pairings unless districts list each other by mutual consent. Districts must have secured the proper funding in advance of application. Do not attach correspondence from the partner district. DO NOT list potential or preferred partner districts that have not agreed to a pairing with your district.

SECTION IV – Trustee Pairing Preferences

Expand the experience of your district by pairing with a district with significant cultural, linguistic, and/or other differences. List regional pairing preferences below. The Trustees reserve the right to determine pairings that fulfill the Foundation’s humanitarian objectives. Note that due to a high volume of requests to pair with certain regions of the world, some of which have few districts, **it is not always possible to accommodate preferences.** Districts are asked to honor the pairings made by the Trustees, and will be required to do so if the “exclusive preference” box is not checked below.

PREFERRED REGION — Please select three and **number them in order of preference.**

- NORTH AMERICA EUROPE ASIA
- LATIN AMERICA AFRICA OCEANIA (AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND)

EXCLUSIVE PREFERENCE

If the Trustees are unable to pair my district with any of the above preferred regions, my district chooses not to apply for a GSE award. **If this box is not checked, your district commits to carrying out a GSE with the partner district selected by the Trustees.**

SECTION V – Specialized GSEs

Check if your district intends to organize a:

- Single Vocation GSE**, composed of team members from one vocation
- Humanitarian Project GSE**, identifying future humanitarian projects for its district
- Special Focus GSE**, focusing on a predetermined area of emphasis
- Traditional GSE**, composed of team members of mixed professions
- Cultural GSE**, focusing on art, music, or other cultural aspects of a country
- Other** _____

Additional team members

- My district agrees to host a **6th / 7th team member** from the visiting team.
- My district wishes to sponsor a **6th / 7th team member**. I confirm that my district has authorized an additional **US\$2,000 DDF** per additional member (or \$1,000 if the exchange is a Neighboring Country GSE).

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

In accepting this award, we understand and agree that:

1. The Rotary Foundation Trustees reserve the right to make final decisions on district pairings.
2. The district has appointed a GSE subcommittee of the district Rotary Foundation committee to administer the exchange, including promoting the program, identifying host families, creating a host itinerary according to GSE guidelines, and orienting the outbound team. The committee will be composed of at least three Rotarians on staggered terms with provision for continuity of membership.
3. The district has appointed a special GSE selection committee to select the team leader, team members, and alternates. The selection committee will include the current district governor, immediate past district governor, district governor-elect, three Rotarians on staggered terms, and GSE subcommittee chair of the selection committee. The selection committee will select team members who
 - a) Are between the ages of 25 and 40
 - b) Are fully employed and have two years’ experience in their field of work
 - c) Are capable of having their long-term career paths impacted through the GSE experience
 - d) Live or work in the sponsor district



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4. Team members must not be Rotarians; honorary Rotarians; employees of clubs, districts, or other Rotary entities (as defined in the Rotary Code of Policies), or of Rotary International; spouses, lineal descendants (children or grandchildren by blood, legal adoption, or marriage without adoption), spouses of lineal descendants, or ancestors (parents or grandparents by blood) of persons in the foregoing categories; or employees of agencies, organizations, or institutions partnering with The Rotary Foundation or RI; and any other individual identified in section 9.3 of the Foundation bylaws. Team members may not be the spouse of another candidate assigned to the same GSE team.
5. Team leaders must not be the spouse, lineal descendant, or stepchild (whether adopted or not adopted) of a living immediate past governor, current governor, or governor-elect of the district making the appointment.
6. Rotarians who serve on a club or district-level GSE selection committee are expected to exercise complete transparency in their familiar, personal, or business relationship with an applicant and must notify the committee chair in advance of the selection process of any actual or perceived conflict of interest due to the committee member's association with a GSE team candidate; e.g., employees of the same firm or organization, members of the same Rotary club, or members of the same club sponsoring an application, familial relationship, etc.
7. Spouses or other family of the team leader and members may not accompany the team during the tour under any circumstances.
8. The Foundation arranges and provides for only the cost of air travel for the GSE team members and leader. The team must travel as a group from one point of departure in or nearest the sending district to one point of arrival in or nearest the host district.
9. The Foundation provides the most economical round-trip air ticket between the home and host countries, and the host area Rotarians will provide meals, lodging, and group travel in their district.
10. Team members must travel together in the host district throughout the study program. If a team member chooses to leave the team before the official end of the study tour, he/she may be responsible for the entire cost of airfare. After the study tour, team members may travel in the host country or elsewhere at their own expense for no more than four weeks.
11. The district will arrange at least **five customized vocational study days per team member (approximately 20 vocational days per team of four non-Rotarian members)** to meet individually with representatives of his/her profession or a closely related profession to study related techniques, conditions, and levels of development, and to exchange ideas and information.
12. The district will provide free time for the visiting team of at least one full day and one half day each week, and one midtour break (no scheduled activities are to be included in this time).
13. Release of travel tickets for a GSE team is contingent upon receipt, review, and approval of the host district's planned itinerary by the sending district and GSE team.
14. The district shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, their directors, officers, and employees from and against any liability, responsibility, costs, or obligations (beyond providing the cost of the team's transportation to and from the receiving district) based upon any negligent or unlawful act of the district or its representatives. The foregoing includes but is not limited to the team leader/member's vocational activities and services while in the host district.
15. Each above Condition of Award applies to all exchange awards granted by the Foundation Trustees. This includes any non-Rotary country GSEs requiring Trustee approval. All aspects of such awards, including travel arrangements and subsidies, will be administered per regular Trustee policy.

We understand and agree to the terms stated in the above Conditions of Award and that this application must be received by The Rotary Foundation no later than 1 October 2008 to receive a pairing for the 2009-10 program year.

NAME OF CURRENT DISTRICT ROTARY FOUNDATION CHAIR (PLEASE PRINT)

NAME OF 2009-10 DISTRICT GOVERNOR (PLEASE PRINT)

SIGNATURE OF CURRENT DISTRICT ROTARY FOUNDATION CHAIR (MANDATORY)

SIGNATURE OF 2009-10 DISTRICT GOVERNOR (MANDATORY)

DATE

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Group Study Exchange Department
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 Evanston, IL 60201-3698 USA
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