

Georgia Rotary Student Programme (GRSP) District 9930 Guidance for Prospective Students

What is the GRSP?

Since 1946, Rotarians in Georgia, USA, have promoted world peace through understanding by offering scholarships to approximately 80 international students each year for one year of study in Georgia colleges and universities. Georgia Rotary Clubs sponsor students recommended by a Rotary Club in their home country. Students become “adopted” members of a Georgia host family but live on-campus during the semester.

APPLICATIONS OPEN IN JUNE AND MUST BE RECEIVED (IN GEORGIA) BY 1 OCTOBER

Applicants must sit a USA Scholarship Aptitude Test (SAT) before 31 OCTOBER

What is included in the scholarship?

The scholarship covers one scholastic year, from August to May, for *undergraduate* study in colleges and universities located in the state of Georgia, USA. It pays for:

- Tuition
- Book allowance
- Meals
- College room during semester

What do I pay for?

- Return transportation to Georgia
- Medical insurance
- Any income taxes imposed by the government on the scholarship money
- Personal allowance of US\$3,000 (although more is definitely recommended)

Who is eligible?

Young people meeting ALL the following criteria:

- 18 years but not 25 years of age by 1 August in the year studies begin
- An undergraduate student
- Has not studied in the USA
- Single (and agree not cohabit in any way for the duration of the scholarship)
- Meet the minimum Grade Point Average requirements for the school selected to attend

I want to go! How do I apply?

First we recommend that you thoroughly review the website www.grsp.org, particularly ‘Eligibility’, ‘Requirements for Submitting Application’ and ‘GRSP Application Form’. Consider carefully how this will fit in with your current studies particularly as the scholarships run from August until May the following year. In addition, you will probably not be studying the same course in Georgia as in New Zealand, so your degree studies may, in effect, be deferred for a year. Applications open in June.

Go to www.collegeboard.org for information/application details on the SAT, and see Q’s and A’s below.

Complete the GRSP online application and print BUT DO NOT SUBMIT. You will require the following before submitting your application:

- A letter of recommendation from your sponsoring Rotary Club or District Governor

- A letter of approval from Rotary District 9930 Coordinator
- Your High School transcript
- Transcripts for each year at University (if applicable)
- SAT scores or SAT exam date. If you do not have your scores when you submit your application ensure they are sent to Georgia **as soon as you receive them**
- Letters of recommendation from two teachers
- A headshot photograph of yourself (jpeg)

Once you have all the supporting documentation submit the online application form and post a hard copy of the application form and all supporting documentation to GRSP P.O Box 61327, Savannah, GA 31420. USA. Copy or scan everything before posting!

How do I find my local Rotary club?

You application must be supported/sponsored by a Rotary Club however the club does not provide financial assistance. To find your local Rotary club check out the District 9930 Rotary website <http://www.rotary.org.nz/district.cfm?ID=11> and see under the 'Clubs' tab. You can approach a club in your home town or local to where you are studying.

How do I apply for sponsorship from a Rotary club?

Send an email or call your local Rotary club Secretary or President to discuss your plans. Use the printed copy of your online application form to support your request. Rotarians from the club will probably want to meet with you. If your request is approved by the club they should advise the District 9930 GRSP Coordinator michelle.tanner59@gmail.com. You require approval from the Coordinator before you can apply to Georgia.

Note this is a local requirement and not referred to on the GRSP website.

Please note successful GRSP students may be required to give a talk to their sponsoring Rotary club and present at the annual Rotary District 9930 Conference on their return.

What next?

Sign up for the SAT as soon as you receive support from your local Rotary club. Your GRSP application must be submitted by 1 October the year before your scholarship would commence. You must sit the SAT exam by 31 October and **forward the results as soon as they are received**. (Previous applicants have been unsuccessful because they failed to forward their SAT results promptly)

Tell me about the SAT

The Scholarship Aptitude Test is a standardised test utilised in the USA to assess the academic readiness of students for university. Please go to www.collegeboard.org to register. Cost is currently US\$94.50. Test centres are located in Auckland and Wellington

Can I talk to someone who has already been on the GRSP?

Yes, contact the District 9930 Coordinator to arrange this, or for more information/any questions

Where do I find more information?

Email or ring the Rotary District 9930 GRSP Coordinator: Michelle Tanner michelle.tanner59@gmail.com 02 77 22 55 99 or contact GRSP directly: grsp@grsp.org  800 732 4167

Summary of Application Process

