



Trustee Handbook



Georgia Rotary Student Program

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Bringing Nations Together Since 1946

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WELCOME AND THANK YOU!

Thank you for your commitment to the Georgia Rotary Student Program. We are delighted to have you serving in the important role of Trustee, as a liaison between GRSP and the students, clubs and host families participating in this program. Our Trustees are critical to the program's success.

This handbook outlines your roles and responsibilities and identifies the resources available to help you fulfill your duties as a Trustee.

INTRODUCTION TO GRSP

Since 1946, Rotarians in Georgia, USA, have promoted world peace through understanding by offering ambassadorial scholarships to international students for one-year cultural immersion and study in Georgia colleges and universities. GRSP has sponsored more than 3,800 students since the program started – from more than 122 countries.

MISSION

GRSP provides scholarships to enhance cultural understanding and social experiences through friendship, develops potential global leaders, and expands the ideals of Rotary around the world.

VISION

To develop leaders who promote understanding and peace around the world.

Each year, students from all over the world make friends with people in the United States and other nations, and learn about differing cultures and lifestyles. The program is unique to the State of Georgia and Georgia Rotary. Georgia Rotarians believe "Peace is Possible" and through GRSP promote international goodwill through friendship and understanding.

All students have a sponsoring Rotary Club(s) and a host family (or families) and participate in Conclave at the start of their year, six additional GRSP weekends, and District Conference for Rotary. See pages 8-13 for more about Scholarship types and the selection process for each.

GRSP TIMELINE

1946 Georgia Rotarian, Will Watt of Thomasville, began the Committee on Foreign Student Scholarships with the help of Kendall Weisiger and the sum of \$4000 (\$1 per Rotarian throughout the State of Georgia.). The first class was three young men and one young woman from European Countries. Theodore Molnar served as administrator.

1949 The Committee on Foreign Student Scholarships was incorporated as The Georgia Rotary Student Fund and later became The Georgia Rotary Student Program

1955 Hue Thomas was elected Chairman of the program and served until 1989.

1957 The first Conclave was held in Milledgeville, Georgia.

1979 The GRSP Endowment Fund was established. Voluntary donations to this permanent fund are invested and only the earnings from those investments are used each year to help supplement scholarship funds provided by individual Rotary Clubs for our students.

1996 The Peace song, written by Janis Comer and GRSP Class of 94-95 Alumni Bernard Wong, made its debut as the finale of the 50th Anniversary Conclave Dinner

2023 GRSP began working remotely across the state of Georgia to better serve scholars and Rotarians in this digital era. The Program now has more than 3,775 alumni from over 112 countries around the world!

www.grsp.org

WHAT IS A GRSP TRUSTEE?

GRSP Trustees are generally Georgia Rotarians who have served as club presidents, club secretaries or GRSP host families, and are then nominated by the District Chair and Directors of GRSP and appointed by the District Governor.

GRSP Trustees are assigned specific clubs within their Rotary district, and:

- Lead those clubs in the selection of their students
- Coordinate student transportation for GRSP weekends
- Serve as a resource to the clubs they serve and their students, helping coordinate everything from student arrival in and departure from Georgia, arranging transportation for GRSP weekends to checking in to ensure students are involved with their club(s)' meetings and activities, and trouble-shooting any issues that may come up during the course of the year
- Visit their assigned clubs and talk about GRSP at club meetings to promote contributions to the GRSP Foundation and encourage club participation in GRSP
- Participate in the three GRSP trustee meetings each year – winter (January), summer (July) and Conclave (August).

Trustees serve for three-year terms and are limited to two full terms plus any unexpired portion of the previous Trustee. The term of all trustees begins on the first day of July. Past trustees who have provided outstanding and exemplary leadership are eligible to be named Trustee Emeritus by the Executive Committee.

Trustees receive no compensation or reimbursement for expenses in connection with performing trustee duties. This is a labor of love – based in a belief in GRSP's goals and the Rotary Spirit of Service above Self.



There are additional trustees who are appointed by the Chair who bring certain talents and abilities to assist the leadership. These additional trustees are called Advisory Trustees and do not have a vote.

HOW GRSP IS STRUCTURED

The program is a 501 (c) 3 corporation in the State of Georgia. A copy of the By-Laws is available on the website at www.grsp.org.

Day-to-day operations of GRSP are managed by a Board of Trustees:

- In each of the Rotary Districts in Georgia, the trustees elect a District Chair and two Directors.
- The Trustees as a whole elect the Executive Committee:
 - Chair
 - Vice-Chair
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Assistant Secretary and
 - Assistant Treasurer
 - District Chairs

There is also a Parliamentarian, who is elected by the other officers.

The GRSP Foundation is a separate entity that includes the endowment that provides partial funding for day-to-day operations and the GRSP scholarships awarded each year.

The GRSP Foundation is managed by the GRSP Foundation Board that includes members who represent all three Georgia Rotary Districts. Half the Board comes from the GRSP trustee group and half are outside directors, involved in Rotary but not currently involved in the day-to-day management of the program. Foundation Board officers are elected by the Foundation Board and include a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Our paid staff includes an Executive Director, Program Manager, and Foundation Assistant. This team carries out the day-to-day operation of the program:

- Process all student applications - verifying the qualifications of the applicants, completing the school admission requirements, working with the universities and colleges to identify potential candidates from among students already applying for study at those institutions who might be eligible under the Direct Selection Process.
- Work with clubs and trustees in the student selection process
- Receive all funds and paying all student related bills.
- Market the program among Rotarians and potential students – including articles, meetings and visits to Georgia Rotary Clubs in support of the program.
- Maintain the records of contributions, alumni, trustees, and coordinate donor recognition activities.
- Carry out other activities at the direction of the Board of Trustees and the GRSP Foundation Board.

FUNDING FOR GRSP

Funding for GRSP comes from the generosity of Georgia Rotarians and friends of GRSP– through per capita contributions, club contributions to the cost of scholarships, and donations to the GRSP Foundation.

Most of the program's basic administration costs come from the per capital contributions from Rotarians in Georgia, supplemented by dollars from the GRSP Foundation. The per-capita contributions from Rotarians



in Georgia began in 1946 with \$1.00 per Rotarian for an initial capitalization of \$4,000. The per- capita fee is now \$7.00 per Rotarian, collected as part of District dues in Districts 6910 and 6920, and billed to the clubs directly by GRSP in District 6900.

Keep the GRSP staff current on your contact information, so we can contact you quickly if needed

Scholarship funding also come from two sources:

- The sponsoring Rotary Clubs pay a portion of the total scholarship cost.
- The GRSP Foundation provides a portion. Each year the GRSP Foundation Board reviews the income and determines the offset for the next class of students. For 2025-2026, that offset is \$7,500. In any given year, the funding from the GRSP Foundation is based on the fixed income investment earnings from the Foundation's assets.

MORE ABOUT THE GRSP FOUNDATION

Due to the rising cost of college tuition, there was a concern in the late 1970's that the program needed a strong financial base to help the Rotary clubs offset the cost of hosting a student. As a result, the GRSP Endowment Fund was founded. In 2020, this endowment became the GRSP Foundation.

Contributions to this fund are invested, and only the earnings from the fixed income investments are used in support of the program. The goal is to continue to grow the fund so that it will provide a substantial portion of the cost of the program. Contributions to the GRSP Foundation by Rotarians, clubs and friends of GRSP are important to sustaining and even growing this program over time.

That's why the GRSP Foundation Board offers:

- Individual recognition at certain levels of contributions to the GRSP Foundation

For calendar and resources, visit

www.grsp.org

- Incentives for clubs to encourage and make it easy for their members to make GRSP Foundation contributions through their clubs.

See more about the recognition levels and the incentive program on page 14.

TRUSTEE DUTIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

The role of the Trustee is constantly changing, but the responsibilities remain the same.

Student Selection

Even though the actual selections are made by the sponsoring clubs, the role of the Trustee in the Student Selection is crucial to a successful process.

- Verify which of your clubs will be Sponsoring a student and the level of their commitment. Determine if your clubs are participating in GRSP via Standard Selection or Direct College Selection (DCS).
- Ensure that the GRSP office has the correct contact information for the President Elects for your clubs and any additional individuals that will need access to the e-Book to view student applications (such as the host family or other members of a Club selection committee).
 - Be sure your club presidents/president elects check their email with instructions on accessing the Selection e-Book. If the president-elect is not listed in DACdb, the email with the login information and instructions will be sent to the current President.
 - Help identify host families if needed.
- Work with the clubs throughout the selection process. Encourage them to make their decisions as quickly as possible so that completed forms are in the GRSP Office by the deadline.
- **Once a club submits a commitment form, the GRSP office will email the Trustee a copy of the submission for their records.** The Trustee then should verify the information on the Commitment forms to ensure that the pledge amount equals the Total cost to clubs.

Student Support

While each of your students has at least one Host Family and sponsoring Club, it's your duty to do all you can to ensure that everyone – from student to club – has a satisfying if not totally enjoyable experience. The host families are a critical component to the program's success. The success of GRSP depends on a good relationship between student and sponsoring clubs and their host families.

- Communicate with your student(s) early and often – from the time they have been accepted by their college/university until they go home, and even after that. Support them in every endeavor and let them know that you are available at all times.
- During the year, be in touch with your student(s) and host families weekly, to be sure things are going well and help with any issues.
- Make sure your student is getting the transportation he/she needs, since we don't encourage students to have cars of their own
- Let your District Director and/or the GRSP staff know when you need help on behalf of your students or clubs.

Student Weekends

- Ensure that students respond in a timely manner AND attend the official (sanctioned) student weekends. Rotary Clubs across the state invest a large amount of time and resources to give students unique experiences in their communities. Attendance is expected, and your

A Trustee is the liaison for the Club and should keep the GRSP Office informed about problems, etc. with the students. The earlier a problem is resolved, the better the outcome.



District Chair must approve any absences in advance. Requests for approved absences must go to the GRSP office staff for coordinating with the District Chair.

- Coordinate transportation to ensure time frames for drop off and pick up are understood by students and Rotarians providing rides.
- Encourage use of the GRSP Bus for students in the Northern parts of the state as they travel to weekends in the South of the state.

Holidays

- Coordinate a plan for student weekends/holidays with school schedule.
- Stress importance of staying with Host families and fellow Rotary Club members over the holidays rather than traveling around USA or returning home.
- Emphasize that Rotary activities take priority over all other activities

District Conference

- Make sure your clubs register students for District Conference
- Coordinate transportation for your student to and from the Conference.
- Coordinate lodging for your student (GRSP usually reserves a block of rooms but needs to know when students expect to arrive and to receive timely payment from the clubs for their students)
- Be sure that Clubs include the student in activities and dinners at District Conference

Trustee Meetings

- Attend Summer Meeting (July), Conclave (August) and Winter Meeting (January). Absences require approval from the District Chair. Some meetings may allow for remote participation through Zoom or other online technology.
- Responsible for booking own accommodations, and all personal expenses for travel as a Trustee (travel, meals, registration, etc.)
 - Be prompt in making any reservations AND paying for meals.

- Make reservations for meetings with hotel AND GRSP office as soon as the dates are available.

Post all meetings on your calendar as soon as the dates are available.
(Check GRSP website Calendar for future dates).

Interactions with Clubs

- Liaison between Clubs, Host families and students
- Be proactive, promote Club involvement and contributions to the GRSP Foundation
- Stress importance of Clubs and Host Families including student in their holiday plans and making sure they are hosting the student during school breaks and holidays – and stress the importance of spending holidays with Clubs and Host Families
- Emphasize that Rotary activities take priority over all other activities and understand that Direct College Scholarship students are here to obtain their degree as well and may need flexibility from time to time.
- Encourage other Rotary Club members to take part in events with GRSP student and to engage with students (transportation, take for meals, coffee, local events, etc.)
- Check in with students and host families weekly to be sure things are going smoothly and according to expectations.

Report to District Chair

- Take time each month to check in with your District Chair, updating the chair on how your students and clubs are doing. Your District Chair is always available to you as a resource, and should be advised if any issues come up during the year. Inform your District Chair of any new contacts you have made.

In Summary, the Trustee is the primary representative of GRSP to the individual Rotarians and Clubs. Each Trustee is assigned by the District Chair a number of clubs in the Trustee's immediate vicinity. The Trustee is responsible for representing GRSP to those Clubs as well as representing the wishes of those clubs in GRSP. This includes being known by the clubs as "their Trustee".

THE SCHOLARSHIPS

GRSP offers two main scholarship programs for international students: Standard Selection and Direct College Selection.

The Standard Selection Scholarship allows international applicants who are endorsed by a Rotary Club from their home country to apply June 1-October 31. Awardees are offered a scholarship to a partner college or university chosen by their sponsoring Georgia Rotary Club(s).

International students who have already been accepted to a Georgia college or university that partners with sponsoring Georgia Rotary Club(s) receive notification from their school with an application invitation from January to June through the **Direct College Selection Scholarship**.

All GRSP scholarship amounts are paid directly to the college or university by GRSP. Those scholarships are funded by a combination of money from the host clubs and the GRSP Foundation.

Students will have expenses to pay out of pocket. International students are required to maintain a certain level of personal medical insurance. Many colleges/universities require students to purchase institutionally recommended medical insurance plans or apply for a waiver if their international insurance is accepted. The average cost is \$1,600 per semester, for a total of \$3,200 per year of medical insurance for institutional plans. Additionally, many of the Colleges and Universities used by our Program impose taxes on scholarships.

These taxes are applied toward room and board and average 14% of that cost. Taxes, where applicable, must be paid prior to moving into the dorms each term. Students should check their online account summaries regularly to verify any balances due.

GRSP STANDARD SELECTION SCHOLARSHIP

Application Period: June 1 to October 31

If accepted into GRSP, students will be extended a one-year (August to May), non-renewable, non-degree seeking scholarship to a college or university in Georgia. Students will benefit from unique mentoring and networking provided by the Rotary Clubs and Georgia Rotary Student Program. *They do not get to select the school they attend.* That is determined by their host club(s).



GRSP SCHOLARSHIP COMPARISON		
	Standard	Direct
Students identified through	Online application process, admission process takes place after selection	Work with college/university admission office after student accepted for admission
College/university selected by	Host club(s)	Club selects college/university to partner with and identify an already accepted student
Student lives	Required to live on campus	Not required to live on campus
Scholarship includes	Tuition, dormitory, meal plan, and an allowance for medical insurance, based on GRSP statistical table for year	Partial Scholarship in dollar amount determined by Host Club(s) that can be applied to any part of their college or university expenses
Duration of scholarship	One academic year	One academic year
Selection takes place	January at Winter Trustee Meeting	April through June
Club commitment to scholarship takes place	January deadline	January deadline

For calendar and resources, visit

www.grsp.org

Students will live on campus in a dormitory, but they will be assigned a Rotary “host family” for the full year and make a commitment to participate in this aspect of the GRSP Program. The host families serve as their family away from home. They “adopt” the student as one of their own family members and invite them to dinner periodically, and into their homes when campus is closed, over school breaks or at other traditional times as well as for student weekend events. It is an immersive life-changing experience that allows both the student and family to learn about each other’s experiences, cultures, and customs.

Awardee must be available for GRSP orientation in August plus participate in six GRSP student weekends and District Conference. Rotary will provide transportation to all student events. Awardee will be required to make one presentation in Fall Semester and one in Spring Semester to each Rotary Club.

The Standard Selection scholarship includes \$500 per term toward medical insurance costs. Students are responsible for covering all transportation expenses to and from the United States, the required medical insurance costs, any income taxes imposed on non-scholarship income by the U.S. Treasury, any transcript translation and/or evaluation expenses, textbooks, passports, visas, inoculations, and personal spending money. It is important for applicants to do their research and ask questions early to make sure they understand all financial obligations. Students need to be prepared to bring at least \$6,000 in reserve to cover expenses throughout the year and must verify that they have access to such funds as part of the visa application process.

Scholarship funds are sent directly to the institution, not the student, and applied to the student’s account at the college or university in two payments (one in Fall and one in Spring semester).

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Be between 18 and 24 years of age by August 1.
- Must not have previously studied in the United States longer than one year plus one semester.
- Not available to married or engaged students.
- Not available to candidates with dual U.S. citizenship.
- Not available to graduate students.
- All students must submit a letter of recommendation from a Rotary Club from their home country.



STANDARD SELECTION SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS

- Student must meet GRSP criteria.
- Student obtains home country Rotary Club nomination.
- Student submits application @ GRSP Website.
- Club(s) completes GRSP Commitment form, identifies prospects.
- College/University provides out-of-state waiver or reduced fees for GRSP student on Standard Selection scholarship.
- GRSP Foundation commits \$7,500 contribution (as of 2025-26 academic year) per student.
- Clubs pick student at Winter Trustee Business Meeting.
- If scholarship agreement offer is accepted, GRSP aids with college admissions process for non-degree seeking student.
- Student is accepted by University/College and begins visa application process.
- Once all completed, Trustee and Host Family contact student in welcome process.
- Students arrive in August for Conclave and begin Fall Semester.

STANDARD SELECTION E-BOOK

The GRSP e-Book are copies of the of applicant information, essays and supporting documents that are available electronically for Clubs to review. With the assistance of the Trustee, the club reviews the applications in the e-Book and selects several students that they would like to sponsor. A commitment pledge form is completed by each club, listing the club's first choice and at least five alternates. The form also has provisions for designating who will be the club host family, the school the club wishes the student to attend with the incoming president signing the financial commitment to sponsor the student. In late January or early February, all trustees meet for Winter Meeting and the final selection of students.

- If the president-elect is not listed in DACdb, the email with the login information and instructions will be sent to the current President.
- Trustees work with the clubs throughout the selection process. Encourage them to make their decisions as quickly as possible so that completed forms are in the GRSP Office by the deadline.

- Ideally, host families should be selected before this process begins so that they can be involved in student selection.
- Trustees and host families should familiarize themselves with the admission requirements for the college/university they have selected, so that they can factor those requirements into the selection of their six students. For example, if a school requires a minimum SAT score for entry, you will want to pay attention to the scores of the students you are considering.
- Direct College Selection- Determine Pledge Commitment amount for your club(s) portion of the scholarship.
 - GRSP will match up to \$7,500 per student.
 - Clubs opting for the DCS program will not select a student from this e-Book, as they will have a different selection book, specific to their school, likely in late spring.
 - The club(s) are still required to complete a commitment form for GRSP to budget for the Foundation match for the year.
 - All clubs participating in Direct College must complete the form with just the college and the amount of their pledge.
- **The combined pledge amount from all clubs involved must equal the designated amount of the net scholarship from the clubs.**
- If more than one club sponsors a single student, **then ONLY the lead club selects the students for Standard Selection on the Commitment Pledge form.**



Other participating clubs will need to complete the form with NO students selected, just the college and the amount of their pledge.

- Forms must be signed electronically by the President Elect.
 - Consent for an authorized designee in the absence of a PE may be documented in an email and sent to grsp@grsp.org.
- **REMEMBER: INCOMPLETE FORMS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED, AND FORMS RECEIVED AFTER THE JANUARY DEADLINE WILL BE HELD FOR THE SECOND ROUND.**
- **CLUBS THAT HAVE NOT SATISFIED THEIR PLEDGE FOR THIS YEAR MAY NOT SELECT A STUDENT FOR NEXT YEAR UNTIL THAT PLEDGE IS PAID IN FULL.**

This final process is referred to as a “draft” since it in some ways resembles a professional sports team drafting future players. In the case of GRSP, if only one club (or one cooperating group of clubs) selects a particular student as their first choice on the commitment form, that student is deemed to be assigned to that club. However, some students will be the first choice of several clubs. This is where the draft comes into play. Before the opening of the formal draft, the Trustees are given a period of time to review the status of the various students, negotiate with other Trustees, and modify their club’s selections. Once the formal draft is begun, the students are reviewed in the same sequence they appeared in the summary book. If the Trustees were able to negotiate such that a student is the first choice of only one club, then the student is assigned to that club. If the Trustees were not able to resolve multiple first choices of a particular student, then the Trustees will draw lots for the student. The losing Trustee must wait until the second round to make an alternate selection. This continues until all clubs have students assigned to them. The process begins about 8:30 a.m. and is usually complete before noon.

AFTER THE DRAFT

After the draft, the staff then notifies the student which club(s) have elected to sponsor them and which school they will be attending. At this time the student is asked for a final acceptance of the scholarship. If the student accepts, GRSP staff then has the student complete the school’s application for admission. Once the student is accepted into the college/university, they are formally introduced to their Trustee and Club in an email from



the GRSP Office. The College/University also issues an immigration sponsorship form called an I-20 or DS-2019, which allows the student to apply for their visa and schedule their visa interview.

Trustees should contact their students as soon as notification is received from the GRSP office that the student has accepted their scholarship. Trustees should encourage the student to begin the process of obtaining their visa immediately if not already obtained. The Trustee should encourage the host family to quickly contact the student to welcome them and arrange for the student’s arrival. Trustees should review the Guide for Host Families available on the GRSP website periodically to be sure that the Trustee can answer any questions first time host families may ask.

The students will begin arriving a couple of weeks before classes begin at their particular school. **The Trustee must assure that the student will be met at the airport and hosted in a private home prior to the date they are to report to the school dormitory.** During this time, it is important that the student be given time to become adjusted to time and other changes. This is a good time for both the Trustee and the host families to get acquainted, but should not be totally scheduled with activities. Both the host and the student will require some adjustment time.

At this point the Trustee’s duty is to monitor the relationships between the student, the club, and the school. An alert Trustee can keep the process well maintained and make the experience meaningful for all parties.

Application Period: Varies by College/University

In 2019, GRSP introduced the Direct College Selection scholarship, which allows clubs to partner with a college or university international admissions office to provide a partial scholarship to an already admitted, international student. This process allows GRSP to diversify applicants, often allowing the program to reach some countries where Rotary is not active or offered. The Direct College Selection process can serve as an outreach to students from countries where there is not an active alumni base as well.

If accepted into GRSP, students will be extended a one-year (August to May), non-renewable scholarship and will benefit from the same unique mentoring and networking opportunities provided by the Rotary Clubs and Georgia Rotary Student Program as Standard Selection Students. Although NOT required to live on campus in a dormitory, students will be assigned a Rotary “host family” for the full year and make a commitment to participate in this aspect of GRSP. Student must be available for GRSP orientation in August, plus participate in six GRSP student weekends and District Conference. Rotary will provide transportation to all student events. Student will be required to make one presentation in Fall Semester and one in Spring Semester to each sponsoring Rotary Club(s).

The GRSP Direct College Scholarship pays a partial scholarship. The amount of the scholarship is determined by the sponsoring Club(s). Payments are made directly to the College or University with half the total paid directly to the college in the Fall Semester and the balance for Spring Semester. Additional funds (from the student or other scholarships) would be required for costs over and above the GRSP scholarship amount. Host families are not expected to support the student in any way financially throughout the year.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Be between 18 and 24 years of age by August 1, 2025.
- Must not have previously studied in the United States longer than one year.
- Must be in good standing with the college or university.
- Not available to married or engaged students.
- Not available to candidates with dual U.S. citizenship.
- Not available to graduate students.

- Candidates must be accepted by the college or university and have received their immigration form DS-2019/I-20 and visa (if applicable).

APPLICATION TIMELINE:

The Direct College application timeline is:

1. February-April Application Opens
2. April-May Application Closes
3. Students are selected by Rotary Clubs for a virtual Interview
4. Students are notified of selection results
5. If offered a scholarship and agreeing to the scholarship terms, the student will be contacted by the local host family paired with them by GRSP.
6. Scholarship funds are sent directly to the institution, not the Student, and are applied to the student’s account at the college or university in two payments (one in Fall and one in Spring semester).

Direct College Selection Process

- Allows clubs to partner with a college or university’s international admissions office to provide a full or partial scholarship to an already admitted student as an incentive for the student to select that institution.
- Club(s) determine the amount of the scholarship. The preference is \$5,000 minimum total commitment with \$2,500 contribution minimum per club and/or a 3-club maximum participation.
- Club(s) complete the GRSP Commitment form.



- GRSP Foundation commits MATCH UP TO \$7,500 contribution (as of 2025-26 academic year).
- Student must meet GRSP criteria.
- GRSP works with the school to notify already accepted degree-seeking international students about GRSP Direct College Selection scholarship with link for Direct College Selection application.
- GRSP Office sends application information for qualified students to club committee for selection of student. Club may request virtual interview.
- If scholarship agreement offer is accepted, GRSP notifies the College.
- Trustee and Host Family contact the student in welcome process
- Students Arrive in August for Conclave and Begin Fall Semester.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE GRSP FOUNDATION

The GRSP Foundation is the lifeblood of the GRSP program, funding a significant amount of the annual scholarships as well as part of the operating budget. The program counts on you to encourage your clubs to make contributions to the GRSP Foundation to ensure that this program continues well into the future. Presentations are available to help you deliver GRSP’s message to your clubs, along with reports that can help you understand where a club and its members stand in terms of actual giving.

You are encouraged to set an example by contributing to the GRSP Foundation and talking about why you believe GRSP represents a good investment.

Promote the GRSP Foundation at club visits and personally contribute to work on achieving the next-level contribution for yourself.

GRSP FOUNDATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM

To help encourage contributions, the GRSP Foundation offers incentives to clubs that reach certain per capita giving levels within a Rotary year. Those incentives are applied the club’s scholarship costs when they host a student the following Rotary year.

If a club’s per capita giving in a Rotary year is ...	Incentive applied to club’s student scholarship cost for following Rotary year ...	For example ...
\$50 - \$99 per capita	25% of club’s contributions	50 member club contributes \$50/member = \$2,500 Next year club receives \$625 credit against their student scholarship cost
\$100 or more per capita	50% of club’s contributions	50 member club contributes \$100/member = \$5,000 Next year club receives \$2,500 credit against their student scholarship cost

Note that:

- Per capita contribution calculations are based on a club’s membership as reported to Rotary International for July 1 start of Rotary year; contributions must be received by the GRSP Foundation between July 1 and June 30
- Incentive credit for any Rotary year will be limited to the club’s scholarship cost for that Rotary year.

INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION AND POINTS

The GRSP Foundation also provides recognition for individual contributions to the Foundation at a variety of levels.



FOUNDATION FELLOWS

\$1,000

WILL WATT FELLOW

The Will Watt Fellow designation honors the Founder of the Georgia Rotary Student Program, who was a member of the Rotary Club of Thomasville.

Honored with Will Watt Fellow Certificate and gold pin



\$2,500

HUE THOMAS FELLOW

This past GRSP Chairman guided the program through 35 years of growth. He was a member of the Rotary Club of Savannah.

Honored with Hue Thomas, Jr., Fellow Certificate and sterling silver pin



\$5,000

KENDALL WEISIGER FELLOW

Atlanta Rotarian Kendall Weisiger's support of international students through the Rotary Education Foundation of Atlanta was merged into GRSP.

Honored with Kendall Weisiger Fellow Certificate or Plaque and sterling silver / sapphire stone pin



\$7,500

JAKE CHEATHAM FELLOW

Long time GRSP Trustee Jake Cheatham served as the GRSP Secretary/Treasurer for over 30 years. He was a member of the Rotary Club of Griffin.

Honored with Jake Cheatham Fellow Certificate or Plaque and sterling silver / emerald stone pin



\$10,000

RONNIE WALLER FELLOW

Ronnie Waller was the original Endowment Chairman who guided the Endowment through a significant period of expansion. A member of the Rotary Club of Gainesville, he also served as the GRSP Chairman.

Honored with Ronnie Waller Fellow Certificate or Plaque and large sterling silver / ruby stone pin



\$15,000

JIM BRIM FELLOW

Jim Brim was a dedicated GRSP Trustee from the Rotary Club of Pelham. He wrote the original GRSP By-Laws and served as Vice Chair of the GRSP program.

Honored with Jim Brim Fellow Certificate or Plaque and large sterling silver / one diamond stone pin



\$20,000

HART JOINER FELLOW

One of the original 12 Trustees selected in the program in 1958, Hart Joiner was a member of the Rotary Club of Gainesville, he was host to many GRSP students and also served as GRSP Chairman in 1964-65.

Honored with Hart Joiner Fellow Certificate or Plaque and large sterling silver / two diamond stone pin



\$25,000

FRANK BENTLEY SR. FELLOW

Past GRSP Endowment Chairman Frank Bentley Sr. guided the Endowment Fund in the '90s to successful campaigns that gave the GRSP financial stability. He was a member of the Rotary Club of Sandy Springs.

Honored with Frank Bentley, Sr., Fellow Certificate or Plaque and large sterling silver / three diamond stone pin



\$100,000

NAMED SCHOLARSHIP

A contribution of \$100,000 or more will earn the donor a permanent Named Scholarship in their name or the name of an individual designated by the donor.



USING DACDB GIVING REPORTS

You can access giving reports for each of your clubs on DACdb. These reports show individual donors as well as club progress toward reaching an incentive credit. Use these reports as you prepare to visit clubs to help you identify Rotarians who are close to a recognition level, and to talk to club leadership about where they stand in earning the incentive credit.

Clubs can use Recognition Points to help individuals get to the next Recognition level. It is similar to points in The Rotary Foundation. For the GRSP Foundation, the points belong to the club. Clubs can allocate 500 points PER LEVEL to reach another level for each Rotarian. They can request the points at the time of the donation or when they are within the 500 points to reach it. The request needs to be in writing/email to the GRSP Office when made for documentation purposes.

SPECIAL GRSP PROGRAMS AND SCHOLARSHIP

SUMMER STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

The Norwegian Rotary Advisory Board in partnership, Rotarians in District 1450 in Denmark, along with GRSP are proud to extend two scholarships (pending funding from Norwegian Rotarians) to Georgia college students to study in Norway as part of the Oslo International Summer School and two scholarships (pending funding from Danish Rotarians) to Denmark at Aarhus University. While GRSP spends the year hosting international college students, we are thankful for these opportunities allowing college students from Georgia to spend the summer attending school and exchanging customs with students from all over the world in a diverse cultural program in the beautiful cities of Oslo, Norway and Aarhus, Denmark with four weeks of academic achievement and international goodwill. English is the language of instruction.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- The opportunity is open to undergraduate and graduate college students who have completed their freshmen year of college by the end of Spring Semester.
- Be between the ages of 20 and 24

- Must be in good standing with the college or university.
- Not available to married or engaged students.
- Be in good health
- Be willing to serve as an ambassador for Georgia Rotarians
- Must have the recommendation of a Georgia Rotarian
- Must have a valid passport

The Norwegian Scholarship includes air fare from Atlanta to Oslo and return to Atlanta. It also includes 10 credits of undergraduate coursework or one graduate course, one weekend-excursion, administered by the University of Oslo, room, board and administrative fees for the International Summer School at the University of Oslo. Scholarship recipients must pay their travel expense to-and-from Atlanta airport and to-and-from the Oslo airport, plus provide their own personal spending money.

The Danish Scholarship undergraduate coursework at Aarhus University, room, board and administrative fees, and even a Danish Rotarian host family. Scholarship recipients must pay their travel expenses and provide their own personal spending money. This scholarship does not include airfare.

DON AND BARBARA THOMAS PEACE SCHOLARSHIP

Since 2002, the Rotary Club of Roswell has administered an annual award recognizing a deserving GRSP student from the current class who exhibits the spirit of GRSP and is in need of financial assistance.

Don and Barbara Thomas were always strong supporters of the Georgia Rotary Student Program, and in June 1992, they created a substantial Charitable Remainder Trust to be given to GRSP. In June 2001, the Barbara M. and Donald L. Thomas Peace Award was established, so each year a deserving GRSP student would be given a generous award. Applications are accepted in the fall and the award is made in the spring. The 2025 award is \$2,500. Make sure your clubs are aware of this opportunity. You will receive information during the fall application period.

SUPPORTING MATERIAL

Please visit the GRSP website Resources tab where you can download the By-Laws, Endowment information, the calendar, suggested club presentations and find much more useful information. www.grsp.org

SUMMARY

To many Rotarians, being a GRSP Trustee is one of their most rewarding experiences in Rotary. It is an honor to be selected. We welcome you as a new Trustee and hope it becomes one of your best experiences too.

The responsibilities of being a Trustee cannot be taken lightly, and we all need to help each other with those responsibilities. It is likely that your District Chair or another Trustee will have faced a similar situation. Call for help BEFORE you need it.

On behalf of all present and past Trustees, WELCOME.



Each week, be sure to check in with your student and host families.

JANUARY

Pledge Commitment Forms Due

Winter Meeting

Standard Selection Students are finalized at Winter Meeting. Trustees should be prepared by knowing/having the lists of prioritized selections for their clubs.

Check in with District Chair.

FEBRUARY

Coordinate Travel for Student Weekend

Register yourself and your student for District Conference

Coordinate Travel and Lodging for District Conference

The GRSP Office makes scholarship offers to chosen Standard Selection Students

Check in with District Chair.

MARCH

Coordinate Travel for Student Weekend

You will be introduced to your new student by the GRSP Office. Be sure to respond to the student, copying the office and introduce your self more in depth.

Direct College Selection Process Begin

Lead Clubs as they select their students
Sit in on interviews for students.

Check in with District Chair.

APRIL

Coordinate Travel for Student Weekend

District Conference

Confirm all travel and lodging details for you and your student in early April

Coordinate departures for current students
gatherings, travel to airport, etc.

Check in with District Chair.

MAY

trustee 
the most critical component of
a successful year

Check in with District Chair.

JUNE

Check in with District Chair.

JULY

Summer Meeting

Student Arrival

Coordinate welcomes and airport greetings for students and plan to greet your student at the airport.

Check in with District Chair.

AUGUST

Conclave

Coordinate Student Travel for Conclave

Coordinate YOUR Travel for Conclave and be sure to book Hotel AND meals (separate links)

Plan Club Visit Schedule with your student. Be sure to get a copy of their class schedule.

Check in with District Chair.

SEPTEMBER

Coordinate Travel for Student Weekend

Pledge Commitment Invoices

Invoices are distributed to Clubs. These Invoices contain Incentive Program credits. You may receive questions from Clubs.

Check in with District Chair.

OCTOBER

Coordinate Travel for Student Weekend

Begin coordinating and communicating holiday plans for student

Notify Clubs of **Peace Award** Process and **Oslo Summer Opportunity**

Check in with District Chair.

NOVEMBER

Coordinate Travel for Student Weekend

Selection Process Begins

Verify participating clubs and their commitment levels

Confirm PEs and their contact info

Check in with District Chair.

DECEMBER

Lead Clubs as they select their students
(Be mindful of test score requirements).

Confirm all pledge amounts to ensure they equal the total cost to clubs.

Help identify Host Families

Ensure that you receive the Spring term schedule from your student

Check in with District Chair.