

Rotary
District 7390



rotary
youth
exchange

How to explain the Rotary Youth Exchange Scholarship:

Anticipate the question – or your own concern – such as:

By saying that each \$24,000 scholarship covers room, board, and tuition, and a monthly stipend for one year of academic study . . . Will people think we are spending a total \$24,000.00 this year for our outbound student? When we are spending much less? And not really for our outbound students but the inbound students.

I am concerned that since the area School District does not charge us tuition for the inbound students who attend school there, if they read about the scholarship, they may think we are taking credit for something that the schools are actually doing.

Or that we are paying tuition for our students to attend school in a foreign country so someone perhaps a Rotary club in Italy, Mexico, and Thailand should be paying tuition to our school for the students who are currently here and going to our local high school.

Also, if the host families read the article, will they mistakenly think that the local Rotary is paying room and board to the families of our students are staying in the foreign countries and that they, in turn, should be reimbursed for room and board for the students that are staying in their homes here in the USA?

As you can see – there have been many thoughts on the program.....To answer the questions on the scholarship....Here is what I would say:

Promoting this with a dollar amount - simply refers to the benefit that the student is receiving here and abroad in a combined Rotary Scholarship between the local Club and the District where the student is going.

Although there are some local expenses and those expenses to get to the country and for insurance. The entire overseas experience is a scholarship. Not this may differ slightly with some countries as they may require additional insurance, or make some trips mandatory. These are outside the ordinary scholarship.

For the detailed discussion, the Department of State is offering the inbound student a scholarship of High School Tuition, through its J-1 Visa policy - and the local schools honor that decree. In effect, it is a scholarship offered by our Government. For example, F1 Visa students do not get that benefit - and have to pay for High School (ranging from \$12000 to 20,000 per year - depending on the state).

For room and board - the discussion reflects this. In partnership with our International Rotary Districts and Clubs, No Rotary host family is compensated, nor is the student expected to pay Room and Board - this international agreement constitutes a scholarship benefit provided by all Rotary Clubs and associated host families.

Info for PA – for students/parents/counselors

The program has a two-tier scholarship aspect.

1. If selected, the student receives the scholarship of all expenses, school and room and board overseas to include an allowance while there.
2. There is another scholarship through:
 - Eastern States Student Exchange (ESSEX) (typically no more than \$1000) - need based, and must have application in by April 1 of the year that student is leaving on exchange