Grant Policy Changes 2021-22

1. District Designated Fund (DDF) contributions transferred to PolioPlus will be matched at 50%.

DDF contributions transferred to PolioPlus will be matched at 50% instead of 100% by the World Fund before being matched by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The Gates Foundation will continue matching 2-to-1 every dollar that Rotary commits to polio eradication, up to $50 million per year.

It's vital that we continue to raise $50 million a year for polio eradication and raise awareness by keeping it a top priority for our clubs, our communities, and our government officials.

2. The World Fund match of DDF will be reduced from 100% to 80% when being used for global grants.

Instead of DDF applied to global grants receiving a 100% match from the World Fund, the global grants match will decrease to 80%. For the 2020-21 Rotary year, as long as funds remain available, DDF will continue to be matched at 100% for applications submitted by 31 May and approved by 30 June. Applications that are not approved this Rotary year will need to be resubmitted with adjusted financing.

3. Five percent of the current year's Annual Fund-SHARE contributions will be taken equally from the World Fund and DDF to help fund operating expenses.

Currently, Annual Fund-SHARE contributions are split equally between the World Fund and DDF, with 5% of the total SHARE contributions being deducted only from the World Fund to help pay for operating expenses.

Beginning 1 July, all Annual Fund-SHARE contributions will first have 5% directed to operating expenses and the remaining will then be split equally between the World Fund and DDF. For example, a $100 contribution will generate $5 for operating expenses and the remaining $95 will be divided equally, with $47.50 for DDF and $47.50 for the World Fund.

4. The ability to roll over unused DDF will be limited to five years. At the end of each Rotary year, DDF that has been held for more than five years will be applied at the district's discretion

to PolioPlus, area of focus Endowment funds, the general Endowment Fund (including the Rotary Peace Centers), the Disaster Response Fund, or the World Fund. The first DDF rollover redirection will take place 1 July 2026.

Grant Policy Changes 2020-21

1. Rotary has a new area of focus — supporting the environment — after a unanimous vote by The Rotary Foundation Trustees and the RI Board of Directors. The Foundation is developing the eligibility criteria for grants in this area of focus and will have more information beginning in October. It will start accepting global grant applications focused on the environment on 1 July 2021. Eligibility requirements for these grants will be available in Oct 2020.
2. The success of Rotary's global grants means that the demand for the grants is expected to dramatically exceed the resources of the World Fund. Because of this, the Foundation Trustees decided to stop matching cash contributions to grants. That change took effect 1 July. Grants that had already been approved are not affected. And cash can still be contributed — it just won't be matched. World Fund resources will still be used to match District Designated Fund (DDF) contributions at 100 percent.
3. International sponsors of global grants now need to contribute only 15 percent of the project budget, not 30 percent.
4. Disaster response grants may no longer be used for COVID-19 activities. Clubs and districts may continue to use district and global grants to help communities through the pandemic.
5. The Trustees decided not to continue using global grants to fund the construction of low-cost shelters and simple schools. Based on the pilot that allowed these activities, the Trustees concluded that these grants were not widely used and were difficult to administer. District grants and disaster response grants may still be used for low-cost shelters and simple schools.
6. Beginning in July 2022, Rotaract clubs can be the primary sponsors of global grants. We'll tell you more about this in the coming months.
7. There is no minimum World Fund match for global grants. Global grants are now defined as having a minimum budget of $30,000 and a maximum World Fund award of $400,000. This means that applicants can use a combination of District Designated Funds (DDF), cash, and/or directed gifts and endowment earnings to fund a global grant.