



Hayfork Rotary Club

P.O. Box 972 ~ Hayfork ~ CA 96041

Guidelines for Rotary Financial Awards

The Rotary Club of Hayfork (Rotary) occasionally receives requests for financial aid from individuals in the community. These requests come from young or older people interested in starting or changing careers or in expanding careers already started. Some requests are from entrepreneurs looking for seed money. Whatever the request, Rotary must decide how to respond.

Because our funds are limited, we probably will want to set reasonable limits on our generosity. An applicant for a monetary award should clearly state how the award will be spent--room and board, fees for attendance, travel expense, and so forth. Those who apply for awards should demonstrate some track record for achievement in the area of interest. Qualities such as industry, integrity, perseverance, good character, and attractive personality are desirable in an applicant.

Rotary has members with a wide variety of skills and achievements. Someone who receives an award might be assigned a suitable mentor from the club to provide guidance and liaison between the awarded and the club. Some tracking of the awardees' progress would be useful in deciding future awards.

The amount of an award will vary from one request to another. The Rotary Board shall set an upper limit to awards and judge each case on its merits and complexities. The award may be less than the request, or a request might be turned down for a variety of reasons.

In this discussion of money, we should leave room for the spirit of philanthropy among the members of Rotary. We sometimes believe in a person or project so strongly that we are willing to support a request with personal funds. That option should be left open as a means to go beyond the upper limit. The larger issue of service to our community remains, and that is something we can all keenly support through judicious consideration of all requests for financial aid.