

# Mountain & Plains District 5470 Rotary Youth Exchange

## Application Instructions (Long-Term Program) for 2020-21 Exchange Year

09.11.19

1. Thoroughly read the entire APPLICANTS section, <http://mountainandplainsrye.com/applicants>, to learn more about our Long-Term Exchange Program. Once you decide this is the right choice for you, proceed with the next steps. Contact our district Outbound Coordinator, Kristi Adams ([rye5470.nancy@gmail.com](mailto:rye5470.nancy@gmail.com)), to let her know you are applying and ask any additional questions.
2. Contact your local Rotary Club to let them know you are seeking their sponsorship for Rotary Youth Exchange. If the club is not participating in Youth Exchange, contact Kristi Adams for assistance.
3. Complete Part 1 of your application NO LATER THAN September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Click <http://yehub.net/MPR-obapp> to begin the application process.
4. In Part 1, you will need to provide contact information for you, your parents, a student letter, parent letter, and photos that meet specific requirements. The earlier you submit this information, the better, as you will advance to the next stage of the application process. DO NOT PROCRASTINATE. We will submit Part 1 to your local Rotary Club so they can tell you the location and time of your interview. If you have already been in touch with them, this will make your introduction and interview easier. Your interview will be held November 4<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019, to determine your eligibility to advance to the District Interview Weekend.
5. In Part 2, you'll receive an email with a link prompting you to complete and upload additional information: Medical Report and Dental Report (we recommend that you make medical and dental appointments ASAP and take the appropriate forms with you), School Transcripts, and Passport. They are due no later than October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019. You will also receive an email link to contact the person who will provide your Secondary School Personal Reference (to be completed by a High School administrator or teacher). Be sure to alert that person you are applying for the Rotary Youth Exchange Program and he/she should be expecting the emailed reference request.
6. As you complete each form, you will scan it and use the provided link to upload each document. Be sure to follow all form instructions and have ALL documents signed in **BLUE INK**. If you need a blank copy of a given form, you'll be able to download it from the same web page.
7. You will be able to see online which forms you have uploaded and which are still required. ALL FORMS MUST BE UPLOADED BY October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019. If selected to advance to the District Interview Weekend, you will need to bring your original documents (signed in blue ink) with you.
8. If your sponsoring club has selected you to advance to the District Interview Weekend, the Youth Exchange Officer will submit an Interview Selection Form to the Outbound Coordinator by November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019. If the Outbound Coordinator can verify that you have completed all requirements of Part 1 and Part 2 of the application, you will receive an invitation to the District Interview Weekend, held at the Marriott Courtyard/Residence Inn in Grand Junction from 5:30pm on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, until noon on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Attendance by the student applicant and custodial parents is REQUIRED to be selected as a Rotary Exchange Student.
9. What happens at District Interviews? When you arrive on Friday evening, the student will check in with his/her parent(s), pay the **non-refundable** \$250 application fee, and receive the weekend schedule of events. Friday night includes a comprehensive program overview, the start of the vetting process for

students, and a Question/Answer session with parents. Saturday morning includes breakfast followed by our famous Country Fair, where current and former Rotary Exchange students showcase their countries to help applicants decide how to prioritize their country selections. The morning is reserved for student interviews, and parent interviews take place in the afternoon. Lunch is provided, but dinner is on your own. Activities are planned for students after dinner. Student interviews resume Sunday morning, but parents are free. Students who participate in the District interview weekend will be notified by the Christmas holidays if they have been accepted and will learn the country selected for them. Spots are limited, so some students may be selected as alternates.

10. Those selected to participate in the 2020 - 21 Rotary Youth Exchange year will be **REQUIRED** to attend:

- March 13-15, 2020 Outbound Orientation (Montrose Holiday Inn Express) **WITH PARENTS**
- May 1-3, 2020 Outbound Orientation #2 (Salida) – students only