

# READING ROTARY

## *Service Above Self*

### Scholarship Application

### Spring 2026

## QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE SERVICE ABOVE SELF SCHOLARSHIP

Service Above Self Scholarships from Reading Rotary will be awarded to selected outstanding high school seniors who demonstrated the following:

- Leadership and volunteerism personify Rotary's motto of *Service Above Self*, whether in the school or other areas of the community.
- Consistent effort and commitment toward improving the quality of life for others.
- An awareness of and action toward raising awareness or addressing humanitarian needs in the immediate community or elsewhere in the world.
- A commitment to dedicating him- or herself to these ideals even into college and professional life.
- Interest in Interact and Rotary throughout high school.

Each scholarship will be for an amount up to a \$1,000 award to the selected candidate (the final number of candidates and scholarship amounts will be determined by the Club). We hope that this scholarship will foster a lifelong association between Rotary International and the recipient!

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

Each applicant must complete the worksheet, below, and submit an essay addressing his/her leadership in demonstrating *Service Above Self* during their lives. The essay must focus on those elements of service in the candidate's background and not on GPA and courses of study. Tailoring the essay to the qualifications listed above is strongly recommended.

Successful applicants are expected to participate in the following activities:

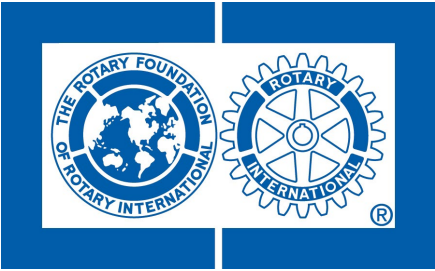
- Attend a future meeting of the Reading Rotary Club to present what you are doing in college and how you have embedded service into your future plans.
- Attend an event in July to receive your scholarship (if available).
- Participate in at least one service project for the Reading Rotary Club, your college, or a Rotary Club in the community in which you are studying.
- Make yourself available for public relations interviews.
- Maintain full-time, post-secondary academic studies with distinction, giving equal importance to all aspects of the *Service Above Self* Scholarship.

If you are awarded the Service Above Self Scholarship, you will receive your funds after the following documents have been provided to the Reading Rotary Club Scholarship Coordinator:

- Evidence that the student is enrolled in an institute of higher education

Please complete the following application and sign the certification document. Submit the completed application by email to [readingmarotary@gmail.com](mailto:readingmarotary@gmail.com) no later than midnight on **April 27, 2026**.

Applications received after that date will not be considered. You may use this form or submit the information in a different format provided it is complete.



# READING ROTARY

*Service Above Self*

## Scholarship Application - Spring 2026

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_

Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

Address Number and Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (permanent) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (cell) \_\_\_\_\_ Country of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Country of Citizenship \_\_\_\_\_

Reading Rotary Club \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring Rotary Club \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent/Guardian Contact Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to applicant \_\_\_\_\_

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

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Name of High School	Location	Graduation Date	Current GPA
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Additional high schools attended (if any)

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High School Clubs / Activities Applicable to this Scholarship (do not attach additional list)

## HIGHER EDUCATION PLANS

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Institution of Study	Location of Institution
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Proposed Field of Study

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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Name of Employer	Job Title	Dates Worked: From	To
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Name of Employer	Job Title	Dates Worked: From	To
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## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

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Name of Organization	Volunteer Activity	Dates Volunteered
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Name of Organization	Volunteer Activity	Dates Volunteered
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Name of Organization	Volunteer Activity	Dates Volunteered
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Name of Organization	Volunteer Activity	Dates Volunteered
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Name of Organization	Volunteer Activity	Dates Volunteered
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## ESSAYS AND DOCUMENTS

Please prepare the following documents. Make sure that you include a header with your name so that the essay can be identified as yours.

1. Please prepare a brief essay, no longer than two pages, describing:
  - How have you incorporated *Service Above Self* in your school, work, community, personal activities and how you will incorporate the motto in the future
  - One challenge you were able to overcome and what you learned from it
2. Please submit a copy (does not need to be an official copy) of your high school transcript along with the application and essay requested above. Packages that are not complete will not be considered.

Please note the following:

- Do NOT submit additional documentation or letters of reference.
- Please direct any questions about eligibility to Amy Walsh at [readingmarotary@gmail.com](mailto:readingmarotary@gmail.com)
- Reading Rotary may decide to interview or not interview the candidates.
- If interviews are conducted, the Reading Rotary Scholarship committee will conduct interviews in June for the final selection award winner. Candidates will be offered an interview time to be determined. If a candidate cannot appear, an alternate date will be offered OR they will be offered an electronic voice/video interview.
- Candidate selection will be performed by members of the Reading Rotary Club, and the selections will be made under the sole judgment of the Club members who are authorized by the Board to review and select the successful candidates.