Feros Grants for First Year Medical Students’ Observerships

Rotary offers up to 4 grants to first year University of Queensland medical students who are undertaking their Observerships in rural or remote Australia or overseas. The value of the grants is $1500, half being a travel subsidy and half being a subsidy for medical equipment or medical consumables (that the host institution needs and that the student purchases and personally takes to the institution).

The grants are jointly funded by the Western Cluster of Rotary Clubs (Toowong, Karana Downs, Ashgrove The Gap, Brookfield and Kenmore Rotary Clubs). The Attachment explains in detail what Rotary does and why the grants are offered.

Students who apply for the grants are shortlisted and interviewed by a Rotary selection panel.

Selection Criteria

* Is the applicant in ‘Good Standing’ with the University.

* Is the Observership located in a rural or remote area in Australia (preferably servicing an indigenous community) or a similarly challenging location like PNG, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Vanuatu, or another developing country.

* Does the applicant have experience in living in another culture and, communicating in another language or living in a developing country.

* Can the applicant demonstrate a commitment to the Service of others (i.e. involvement in a charity and/or community service or volunteer work)?

* Is the applicant willing to consider either of the following options as part of their longer term career as a medical practitioner:
  * A placement in a rural or remote area within Australia?
  * Volunteer service in a developing country?

* What does the applicant know about Rotary?

The deadline for applications is FRIDAY 2 AUGUST 2019

Your CV must be appended to the completed questionnaire. Please direct all enquiries to: med.placements@uq.edu.au

Email your application to: med.placements@uq.edu.au

One of the other benefits of being selected for a Feros Grant is that you will be welcomed by a Rotary Club close to your Observership location.
HOW TO STRUCTURE YOUR APPLICATION

Name:

GPA at end of July:

What is the precise location of your chosen Observership? Why this choice?

What previous experience do you have of the following things you are likely to encounter in your Observership:

1. Coping with life in another culture?
2. Trying to communicate in another language?
3. Having to come to grips with expectations of culturally appropriate behaviour?
4. Having to bear with an oppressively hot and cyclonic climate?
5. Having to live in in “third world” conditions?

What prior involvement have you had in charity work and/or community service work or similar volunteer work?

Do you have an inclination towards practice in fields dedicated to reducing the incidence of infectious diseases and the burden of chronic disease?

What vision do you have of yourself as a medical practitioner dedicated to the service to others? For example is there someone who you would like to emulate, or a role you aspire to, or a place you would really like to work in?

Are you willing to consider either of the following options as part of your longer term career as a medical practitioner:

* A stint in a rural or remote area within Australia?
* Volunteer service in a developing country?

* What attracts you about Rotary?

* Do you accept the following terms of the grant?

  * payment upon return to Brisbane
  * supply proof of outlays on airfares and medical equipment/consumables
  * a two page report within two weeks of return to Brisbane
  * 15 minute presentation in February 2020 to a combined Rotary Clubs meeting

!!!! DO NOT FORGET TO ADD YOUR CV AS AN ATTACHMENT !!!!
TIMETABLE

Friday 5 July 2019   Invitation for Feros Grant Applications opens
Friday 2 August 2019 Closing date for Applications
Saturday 10 August 2019 Shortlisting of applicants by Rotary panel
Saturday 17 August 2019 Interview of shortlisted applicants by Rotary panel
Monday 19 August 2019 Notification to applicants
September/October 2019 Contact the host site about their medical equipment/consumables needs and purchase them locally
November 2019   Depart for Observership
January 2020   Return from Observership and submit your Report
February 2020   Presentation with your fellow students to a joint Rotary joint Clubs meeting

What are the Objects of Rotary?

To encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:
1. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
2. High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian’s occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
3. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian’s personal, business, and community life;
4. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

What are the Feros Grants?

These grants were established provide financial assistance to University of Queensland medical students with their elective placements whether in rural and remote areas within Australia or in the South Pacific area.

Since its inception Rotary has always supported interventions to reduce the burden of infectious and chronic diseases. Today Rotary is involved in immunization programs, infectious disease response and water supply and sanitation projects in developing countries.

Medical research in areas such a mental health, infectious diseases, and chronic disease is also a priority. Within this framework Rotary provides financial support to medical students to undertake placements in rural, remote, or disadvantaged communities.