



World Experience Scholarships

Dear SCRYE YEOs,

Once again, SCRYE has partnered with World Experience Scholarships (WES) to provide scholarships to outbound students from SCRYE member districts who need financial assistance in order to participate in Youth Exchange. WES has committed \$20,000 for students from SCRYE going out on exchange in the 2018-19 year. Scholarship amounts will be determined on an individual basis by the WES Scholarship Selection Committee and will range from \$500-\$2,000.

Applications will be received from January 1, 2018-April 30, 2018

WES has set forth some specific guidelines for students and Districts YEOs to follow in the application process. The WES application is completely an online process with supporting documents sent via email. SCRYE also has set some requirements.

1. Each SCRYE district may submit ONE (1) application.
2. The District YEO must notify Kathy Meurin, SCRYE Executive Secretary at execsec@scrye.org, and Ronna Morse, SCRYE Assistant Executive Secretary at asstexecsec@scrye.org if they intend to have a student from their district apply for a WES scholarship and provide the name of the student.
3. All correspondence with WES should clearly state the District YEO's name, title, district number and the name of the student applying for a scholarship.
4. YEOs should familiarize themselves with the application process so they can advise students. The website is: <http://worldexperiencescholarships.com/application/>
5. WES offers scholarships to students from various organizations so they are requiring the following on the applications from SCRYE students:
 - A. Under *Sponsoring Organization*, enter the Rotary District number followed by the name of the District YEO
 - B. Under *Email Address of Sponsoring Organization*, enter the email address of the District YEO

See Sample Below:

The screenshot shows the application form for World Experience Scholarships. The 'Sponsoring Organization' field contains '0000, Jane Doe, District YEO' and the 'Email Address of Sponsoring Organization' field contains 'janedoe@0000rye.org'. These two fields are circled in red. The form also includes fields for Date, Student Name (Last, First, Middle), Street Address, City, State, and Zip, Parents Email Address, Your Email Address, Birthdate, Home Telephone Number, Mobile Phone Number, Country You Plan to Visit, 1 or 2 Semesters, Month & Year of Departure, and How did you hear about World Experience Scholarships? The right side of the page shows instructions for the application process, including a step to completely fill out the application online and a step to press the Submit button.

continued

6. **The email with the supporting documents** (statement confirming the student's acceptance into the Youth Exchange program by the sponsoring organization [Rotary District] and Letter of Recommendation) **MUST BE SENT ON THE SAME DAY AS THE STUDENT'S APPLICATION.**
7. The Letter of Recommendation* must come from the District YEO and address the financial needs of the student.
8. The Acceptance Confirmation Statement* must include the District YEO's name, mailing address and email address. It should also include instructions for payment of scholarship funds. Suggested wording: Should this student be selected to receive a WES scholarship, the check should be made payable to: *Rotary District XXXX Youth Exchange* and the funds will be distributed to the student according to our district policy.
9. WES will send an award letter by May 15 to the District YEO shown on the Acceptance Confirmation Statement.
10. WES will send an award letter directly to the student with a copy to their parents.
11. Scholarship recipients will be required to send a thank you addressed to the WES Board of Directors . The thank you may be emailed to: applications@worldexperiencescholarships.com
12. Scholarship recipients will be required to send two (2) letters during their exchange and one (1) at the conclusion of their exchange describing their activities. These may be used for promotional purposes. These letters should be emailed to: applications@worldexperiencescholarships.com
13. If a student does not depart, all monies will be returned to WES.

**Note the file naming instructions in the WES application instructions below.*

Below are the WES application instructions as stated on their website:

Step 1:

Gather the following:

1. A copy of **page 1 of your family's 1040 IRS tax form showing the Student as a dependent.** You should black out the SSNs on the form. Scan and save as a pdf named *IRSyourname.pdf* where "*yourname*" is your name, e.g. *IRSjohndoe.pdf*
2. **A head and shoulders picture.** Save the picture on your computer as a jpeg document named *pictureyourname.jpg* where "*yourname*" is your name, e.g. *picturejohndoe.jpg*
3. **A recommendation letter from the local representative of your sponsor organization.** The letter must contain a statement about the applicant's financial need. Scan and save as a pdf document named *recommendyourname.pdf* where "*yourname*" is your name, e.g. *recommendjohndoe.pdf*
4. **A statement confirming your acceptance from sponsor organization.** Scan and save as a pdf document named *acceptyourname.pdf* where "*yourname*" is your name, e.g. *acceptjohndoe.pdf*

Step 2:

Completely fill out the application online on this page. Do NOT download or print the application.

1. Press the **Submit** button and the application will be submitted to World Experience Scholarships.
2. A copy of your submission will appear which may be printed for your records.

Step 3:

Attach the documents you saved in Step 1 to an email addressed to applications@worldexperiencescholarships.com with Subject: *YourNameApplication*

Your application is NOT complete until **all** required documents in **Step 1** are submitted **and** all fields in the **Student Scholarship Application** are complete.

Information about WES

Our Mission

World Experience Scholarships strives to strengthen international links of friendship, support, and understanding among nations by providing financial assistance to secondary school exchange students of limited financial means. World Experience Scholarships believes that the sensitive awareness of cultural differences created through student exchange should be offered to all interested students regardless of their financial ability to pay.

Why Us?

World Experience Scholarships was created to encourage High School students to study and live abroad. WES believes that this life changing experience will allow our youth to become caring world citizens and be prepared to compete in the world marketplace. It is through being a foreign student and viewing one's nation from afar that allows our students to develop human skills such as tolerance for differences, ability to deal with change, independent thinking, openness of mind and the understanding that one can only expect respect and care if one extends them to others.

Three WES evaluators will review the student application and record their evaluations.

The evaluation uses the following criteria:

- 30% Sponsor organization's support letter from their local representative
- 40% Student's answer to Question #1
- 30% Student's answer to Question #2

The scores of the three evaluators will be combined for a final score and applicants will be ranked based on the final score. The top ranks will be awarded scholarships. Financial need as indicated by application support letters will be used as the tie breaker.