



Humanitarian Grants Program

Frequently Asked Questions – Matching Grant Budget Reductions

September 2009

Despite the budget increase, the 2009-10 [Matching Grant budget has been fully committed](#). For the remainder of the Rotary year, TRF will no longer process Matching Grant applications requesting a match from the Foundation. Please continue reading for answers to frequently asked questions regarding the Matching Grant budget.

Q. What will happen to new applications received by The Rotary Foundation (TRF)?

A. TRF will return applications to the sponsors and offer them the opportunity to refinance the project requesting \$0 match from the World Fund.

Q. How can I refinance my project requesting \$0 match from the World Fund?

A. Clubs and districts are encouraged to fund their projects entirely with cash and District Designated Fund (DDF) contributions in lieu of receiving a match from the Foundation. The project budget must be a minimum of \$10,000 to use this option. Please note that the host sponsor must contribute \$100 (either in cash or DDF). Please also remember that the project financing must equal the project budget.

Q. How will I know if my Matching Grant application was approved?

A. Humanitarian Grants staff members are processing an exceptionally high volume of applications at this time and are working hard to inform sponsors of the status of their application by the end of September. Your patience is appreciated. If you do not receive an update about the status of your grant application by 25 September, please contact TRF at contact.center@rotary.org

Q. How is it possible that some applications were approved while others were not, even though they were submitted to TRF at the same time?

A. In order to provide equal support for the worthy projects of Rotarians worldwide, Matching Grant applications were processed in the order in which they were received and approved in the order in which they were completed and met all Trustee requirements for funding.

Q. My application was reverted but I resolved all of the issues. Can I resubmit it now?

A. Yes, you may resubmit the application provided that you submit a revised financing plan that requests \$0 match from TRF. The total project financing should consist of at least \$10,000 in cash and DDF. If you are able to secure outside sources of funding, please make sure you indicate those as well. Please remember that total project financing and total project budget should match.

Q. If my grant has already been approved, will it still be processed for payment?

A. Yes. Any grants that have already been approved this Rotary year or in previous years will not be affected and will be processed for payment once the payment requirements have been fulfilled.

Q. What happens if too many Competitive Matching Grant applications are submitted and my application cannot get funding?

A. The October 2009 Competitive Matching Grant round is likely to be very competitive. Consequently only the strongest applications will receive TRF support. Sponsors may choose to substitute DDF for the original World Fund match in order to ensure funding for larger projects (which would then not be considered Competitive).

Q. What will happen to Matching Grants during 2010-11?

A. The Trustees will approve the 2010-11 budget during their April 2010 meeting. Until that time, we do not know how much money will be available for Matching Grants. However, while there have been some improvements in The Rotary Foundation's investments, it is unlikely that we will see a significant increase in the budget from 2009-10.

Q. Has TRF cut staffing resources since the budget was reduced?

A. The Humanitarian Grants Division has reduced the number of program staff and has delayed hiring for multiple positions in order to conserve TRF resources. Each coordinator currently has over 350 grants that they coordinate and will continue to add to that number as applications are submitted in the 2009-10 Rotary year. Additionally, there are over 6,000 grants currently open totaling over \$150,000,000 in funding. Staff members are needed to coordinate and process these thousands of files despite the budget reduction.