

How does the Rotary Peace Fellowship determine relevant experience?

The Rotary Foundation welcomes eligible candidates from all backgrounds. We are looking to invest in early-career candidates for the master's degree program with at least three years of relevant experience, and mid-career candidates for the certificate program with at least five years of relevant experience.

Candidates for the Rotary Peace Fellowship must have relevant professional experience in peacebuilding and/or development prior to application, as well as potential for future growth and impact resulting from their participation in the fellowship. Relevant experience may include work in the planning, implementation, or evaluation of peacebuilding or development initiatives in the following categories:

1. **Government, official diplomacy, or policymaking** as part of a local, national, or international institution.
2. **Non-governmental organizations** that contribute to the analysis, prevention, management, resolution, or recovery from conflict, or that engage in work related to humanitarian assistance or development.
3. **Economic development**, or peacebuilding through the expansion of economic opportunity.
4. **Private citizen diplomacy**, such as leadership of cultural or vocational exchange programs, or leadership through volunteer organizations on causes related to peace and development.
5. **Research and education** initiatives through roles at think tanks, in academia, leading train-the-trainer programs, or as an educator where teaching material primarily covers global or cross-cultural studies, peace studies (including human rights, mediation, negotiation, or dialogue), or conflict analysis/resolution.
6. **Advocacy and activism** on behalf of causes related to peace and development, including legal professionals specializing in related areas such as human rights or the representation of vulnerable individuals or groups.
7. **Leadership in a religious congregation or organization** emphasizing pacifism, sanctuary, nonviolence, or peacebuilding through interfaith dialogue and tolerance.
8. **Media and the arts**, in roles that contribute to peace through the research and spread of reliable information, encouragement of positive social change, and shaping public opinion towards peaceful outcomes.
9. **Law enforcement or military** positions related to peacekeeping, building community partnerships, and improving community interactions.
10. **Public health** roles related to community development that prevent the spread of disease and improve health outcomes.

Peacebuilding is an evolving field; a candidate with innovative or context-specific experience that does not relate to a category listed above may include it in their application, and Rotary Peace Centers staff will evaluate its relevancy to the fellowship's goals on a case-by-case basis.