



ROTARY CLUB OF SAN ANTONIO

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Dear Counselor,

As a high school counselor, you have many demands on your time. We know, through it all, your main concern is the welfare of your student.

The Rotary Club of San Antonio is honored to share financial assistance with some of your students through the Sam J. Riklin Rotary Diploma Plus program. Our main concern is to help these students financially through the scholarship and offer them support through the mentoring program.

We rely on your help throughout the process – from applications to mentoring. Your participation is key to the success of the program.

There are three main areas of responsibility for a counselor:

- The application process
- Reporting requirements
- Mentoring program

This brochure outlines the process and the timelines. Please use it as a reference guide and reminder.

Thank you for all you do for your students and for your participation in this program.

Sincerely,

The Rotary Club of San Antonio



SAM J. RIKLIN ROTARY DIPLOMA PLUS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

GUIDELINES

- ✓ Eligible students must currently be listed as juniors at a high school in the San Antonio area.
- ✓ Recommendations can be filled out by either a counselor or a teacher.
- ✓ No more than 10 applications per school.
- ✓ Additional applications can be printed from our website at <http://www.rotarysa.org/DiplomaPlus.cfm>.
- ✓ Although it is not required that essay's be typed, it is strongly recommended that student's take the time to type their essay.
- ✓ To expedite processing of an application, please ensure that applications are assembled in the following order.
 1. Counselor / Teacher Recommendation
 2. Student Application
 3. Student Essay
 4. Transcript (please do not seal in envelope.)
- ✓ Do not staple completed application package. Paper clip if necessary.
- ✓ All applications must be postmarked or hand delivered to the Rotary office no later than 4 PM Friday, February 29, 2008. Faxed applications will not be accepted.

Rotary Club of San Antonio
710 McCullough
San Antonio, Texas 78215

**If you have any further questions, please contact
Aimée Holland at 210-222-8242 Ext. 101 or via email at
assistant@rotarysa.org.**

Sam J. Riklin Rotary Diploma Plus Program



The Rotary Club of San Antonio and member Sam J. Riklin began the Diploma Plus Program in 1991. The goal of Diploma Plus is to keep at-risk and financially challenged students in school until graduation. The Rotary Club of San Antonio believes that students who are committed to achieve an education, especially when faced with adversity, are more likely to become productive members of our community. The Club reinforces their commitment by awarding \$100 stipends during their senior year plus \$100 upon graduation, for a total of \$1,000.

Rotary works with school guidance counselors and teachers to identify potential recipients during the candidate's junior year. We require written applications to be submitted by the candidates that are reviewed by a committee of club members and local educators. Students who receive stipends are mentored monthly during their senior year. They must maintain at least a "C" average and a 95% attendance rate to remain eligible to receive their monthly stipend. To date over 90% of the recipients have graduated.

Rotary Diploma Plus is a unique partnership between Rotary and the public sector to address the crisis of drop-outs in our community. A student who makes a commitment to finish high school will be more likely to attend college.



ROTARY CLUB OF SAN ANTONIO
710 MCCULLOUGH
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78215



Sam J. Riklin Rotary Diploma Plus Program

COUNSELORS RESPONSIBILITIES

**COUNSELORS AND ROTARY
HELPING MAKE A
DIFFERENCE IN A
STUDENTS LIFE.**



THE ROTARY CLUB OF SAN ANTONIO
710 MCCULLOUGH
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78215
(210) 222-8242
WWW.ROTARYSA.ORG

2008-2009 Timeline

- 1-11-08** Applications mailed to area high schools.
- 2-29-08** Completed applications due to Rotary office by 4PM.
- 3-31-08** Winners and Counselors are notified by mail of acceptance.
- 5-7-08** Awards Luncheon for students, parent and counselor.
- 8-2007** Counselors are contacted within the first week of school to confirm student is enrolled. First check is mailed.
- Counselors will be contacted every 6 to 9 weeks to obtain student grades and unexcused absences. Checks will be mailed after information is submitted.
- 5-2009** Students will receive their final check. This check will



For more information about this worthwhile program, contact

Aimee Holland

210-222-8242 X 101
assistant@rotarysa.org

The Rotary Club of San Antonio

710 McCullough
San Antonio, Texas 78215
Phone: 210-222-8242
www.rotarysa.org

The Application Process

Every January applications are mailed directly to area high schools. Counselors are asked to select up to 10 students who are considered at risk of not graduating from high school. Completed applications are due back to the Rotary office by the fourth week in February.

Reporting Requirements

Counselors are contacted at the beginning of each school year to confirm the student is registered and is classified as a senior. Based on your districts calendar, counselors will then be contacted every 6-9 weeks to obtain the students grades and number of unexcused absences. Once this information is received by the Rotary office, checks are mailed directly to the counselor for disbursement to the students. Checks are not mailed unless information is received.

Youth Mentoring

Through our Youth Mentoring Program a Rotary member will be paired with a Diploma Plus Student. These mentors will meet weekly with students at the students campus. The mentor will be on hand to just talk to the student.

Counselors are contacted by the Rotary office at the beginning of each school year to begin the mentoring process. We ask that you alert the parent and the student of this opportunity.

Although the scholarship does not require students be a part of the mentoring program, we hope that you will encourage students and parents to take advantage of this opportunity.

Dear Counselor,

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Sincerely,

The Rotary Club of San Antonio





Diploma Plus Scholarship 2008-2009

The following items must accompany this application:

1. Counselor / Teacher Recommendation
2. Student Application
3. Student Essay
4. Transcript

Please follow this order when assembling your application.
Packets should be paper clipped and not stapled.

Applications can be mailed or hand delivered to:

Rotary Club of San Antonio
Attn: Diploma Plus Scholarship
710 McCullough
San Antonio, Texas 78215-1615

Phone: 210-222-8242 Ext: 101

IF MAILING

All applications must be postmarked no later than Friday, February 29, 2008.

IF HAND DELIVERING

All applications must be received in the Rotary office no later than 4 pm, Friday, February 29, 2008.

Faxed applications will not be accepted.

Application Deadline: February 29, 2008



Counselor / Teacher Recommendation

(To be completed by a Counselor or Teacher who is familiar with the student.)

DATE: _____

STUDENTS' NAME: _____ SCHOOL _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____

GRADE AVERAGE _____ DAYS ABSENT _____ ATTENDANCE RATE _____

IS STUDENT CURRENTLY CLASSIFIED AS A JUNIOR? YES NO

WILL THIS STUDENT BE CLASSIFIED AS A SENIOR AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR? YES NO

PLEASE PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING INDICATORS OF THE STUDENT'S FINANCIAL NEED:

	YES	No	UNKNOWN
FREE LUNCH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
REDUCED LUNCH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A.F.D.C.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FOOD STAMPS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY) _____			

RECOMMENDATION

THIS RECOMMENDATION IS REQUIRED AND SHOULD DOCUMENT ECONOMIC REASONS THAT PUT THIS STUDENT AT RISK OF NOT COMPLETING HIGH SCHOOL. ADDITIONAL PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE IF YOU REQUIRE MORE SPACE. IF YOU SO WISH TO SUBMIT A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO ATTACH TO THIS FORM.

COUNSELOR SIGNATURE: _____

COUNSELOR NAME (PLEASE PRINT): _____

COUNSELOR PHONE NUMBER: _____

Application Deadline: February 29, 2008

