

District Governor Preparatory Journey

Welcome to an exciting journey, a journey to become the District Governor of Rotary International District 6450, “The Birthplace of Rotary. During this journey, you will be required or suggested to attend many functions and meetings. The journey will be exciting and one that will be life altering. It is in this spirit that you know what will be expected of you while in the position of District Governor Designee, Nominee, Elect and finally Governor (refer to RI Gov Manual Section).

District Governor Designee

Your journey is just beginning. You will be notified of your acceptance as the new Governor Designee in early December. You will be asked to go to the District holiday party where you will be formally announced as the new Governor Designee. After this event, you will be asked to participate on the District Board as a member. You will also be asked to participate on the finance committee. Though this committee is not a requirement during your 6 months as the Designee, it really is advisable to participate, if at all possible. You will learn of the finances of the District and begin to understand the workings of the district. Both the board and finance committee meet once per month. As of this writing, the board meets the third Monday of the month in the evening with the finance committee meeting the Wednesday before the board. You will also be asked to be involved or participate on the Foundation Committee. This is optional during this six month time.

As the Governor Designee, you will become a member of Midwest PETS (President Elect Training Seminar). While it may be good to attend PETS in March, you will need to attend the Meetings of Midwest PETS for the planning of the next PETS. The first meeting is in the spring of your Designee year. This will help you to establish connections and friends with your other “Governor classmates” and by attending you can begin to locate Rotarians who might be a good addition to your leadership team when you become Governor.

As the Designee, you will also be asked to attend the District Conference. This is important because technically, this is where you will be officially voted in as the Governor Nominee. Currently, this is also held in the spring. This is NOT a covered expense by the District, but also a good place to look for volunteers. You should also plan on attending the installation of the incoming District Governor in June. You will be recognized at that event as the new incoming District Governor Nominee.

You will have a small (\$500.00) expense re-imburement for travel while you are the Designee. That number will grow in subsequent years as your involvement and participation requirements increase.

Finally, there is a weekly conference call between the current Governor, Governor Elect, Governor Nominee, and the Governor Designee (not required). It is recommended that if you

are able, to attend the call so you can see what is happening in the District. As of this writing, it is held on Monday mornings from 8:15-9:00.

There are many things that by attending or participating will benefit you during your journey. While everything is not required until later down the road, it does really help.

District Governor Nominee

You are now the District Governor Nominee. You will now be required to attend the monthly board and finance meetings and if possible, maybe attend the foundation conference calls and now, because your term as governor is getting closer, the weekly conference calls are a must. If you are able, you can attend the Rotary Youth Exchange Conference. This is the second week-end of July.

You are now chair of the board nominating committee to seek out and propose new members for large members. There are many people who will help you through this process.

In September, you are required to attend the ZONE Meeting. This is a 4 day meeting with training specifically for governor Nominees and Governor Elects. It goes from Wednesday afternoon through Sunday at noon. This meeting is vital to your success as a governor. You will meet the other governors in “your class”. This can be truly inspiring. In September of 2016, the meeting will be held in Cleveland. There is a budget for this and the District will pick up your travel, hotel and registration costs. Currently, this cost is up to \$1,600.00.

After zone meeting, there is a district fall training conference. This is usually a ½ day in October.

You will also have a couple of PETS meetings to attend prior to PETS in March. These are the planning meetings for the PETS program and you will have an integral part in the planning. Since the Midwest Council on PETS is held in Itasca, you will probably be asked to help coordinate the set-up and take down of the event. The registration for PETS and your food is picked up by the Midwest Council on PETS. The hotel is picked up by the District.

In November, there is a Foundation Dinner and the holiday party in December. You may be asked to participate in some other club events (major birthday for the club, 75 or 100 years), club installations, new club charter nights, etc. You will have an additional expense budget of 500.00 for travel. After PETS, you will be attending District Conference. This is not covered by the District, but you are now very close to becoming the Governor Elect so being there is important.

The new Governor’s installation is normally in late June, sponsored and organized by your home club.

District Governor Elect

You are now one year away from being the new District Governor of District 6450, “The Birthplace of Rotary”. You must not only attend most of the functions in order to engage with fellow Rotarians, but you will also be finalizing your leadership team for the coming year. You have many positions to fill, so by attending the events the prior two years, hopefully you have a great understanding of the positions as well as those who are not only capable but willing to step up. You will be attending Rotary Youth Exchange in July in Michigan (Central States). In September, you will once again attend the Zone meeting (Zones 28 & 29). You will still attend the Fall and other training sessions, Foundation Dinner and District Holiday Party.

In January, is the week long International Assembly (training for governors worldwide) in San Diego. The International Assembly, organized by Rotary International, is paid for by RI for both you and your spouse. You will return to host pre-PETS and PETS for the President Elects at the collaborative Midwest PETS, work to organize with your district trainer the District Spring Training, and attend the District Conference. Between the International Assembly and the District Conference, if not already completed, you’ll want to fill out all the district leadership positions and conduct planning sessions with them. Additionally, and preferably by the PETS meeting, you will have scheduled your Club Visits for beginning in July. In May or June, you will attend the Rotary International Convention. You will have an allowance for the meeting. It is critical to attend as this is where you will get inspired and get the direction from the newly elected President of Rotary International. When you return, you will be sworn in as the new District Governor at an installation event your home club organizes on your behalf.

District 6450 provides a budget for governor elect to offset local travel and event costs, attend the International Convention and purchase awards and recognition materials needed for PETS and the beginning of Club Visits. Basically ‘required’ events, like Youth Exchange Conference, Zone, PETS the International Convention are budgeted annually. As mentioned Rotary International pays for the International Assembly. The district also provides a general travel and expense account for mileage and other travel, meeting costs.

Governor

The Governor serves as an officer of Rotary International and as the CEO of Rotary International District 6450, Inc., chairing its board of directors. The governor works with the board to set policy and guide the district; and, manages the day to day operations through district leadership. Both Rotary International and the District provide funding for governor travels and managed properly ones volunteering for the year should not have a significant out of pocket financial impact.

Please see the RI Gov Manual section of the webpage for details covering ones preparation for governor and the governor year of service.