

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

What is the purpose of the Changemaker Award?

The Changemaker Award recognizes Rotary clubs that successfully complete an array of challenging activities in each of the Avenues of Service: Club, Vocational, Community, International, and New Generations.

How can my club qualify for a Changemaker Award?

Fill out the [2011-12 Changemaker Award Brochure](#) and submit it to your district governor no later than 15 March 2012. Each club that meets the requirements will be issued a certificate

Can Rotaract and Interact clubs qualify for a Changemaker Award?

Yes, there is a Changemaker Award for Rotaract and Interact clubs. The criteria are similar to the criteria for Rotary clubs, but relatable to the activities of Rotaract and Interact clubs. Details can be found on the Changemaker Award certification forms for Rotaract and Interact clubs, which are available for download on the RI website.

What is the “Million Smiles A Day” campaign referenced in the *New Generations Service* activity options?

The concept of “Million Smiles A Day” is simple: Rotarians—along with their families, friends, and colleagues—should consciously “give” one smile per day through a good deed or gesture to another person, no matter how big or small. As more people commit themselves to undertaking little acts of kindness each day, the global benefit will become enormous.

Rotary clubs are invited to develop their own creative ways to put this concept into practice each day, and are especially encouraged to have youth participate. Clubs that successfully involve youth in a “Million Smiles A Day” campaign will qualify for one of the activity options to help them earn the 2011-12 Changemaker Award.

What are the “International Winners” referenced in the 2011-12 Changemaker Award Brochure?

Each district governor may select one small club (fewer than 25 members), one medium club (25-50 members), and one large club (51+ members) that he/she feels made the greatest impact in the Avenues of Service during the Rotary year. All district finalists will be considered at the zone level by the appropriate RI Director and each director will select one zone winner for each of the three club size categories. The RI President will review each of the zone winners and select one international winner for each of the three club size categories. The presidents of each of the three international winner clubs will be invited at RI's expense to attend the RI Convention in Bangkok, Thailand, 6-9 May 2012, and appear onstage to recognize their clubs' achievements.

Will district finalists receive special recognition?

No, the names of the district finalist clubs will not be publicized by RI and will not receive additional recognition.

Will zone winners receive special recognition?

Yes, each zone winner club will receive a special certificate recognizing its extraordinary achievements.

How can I ensure that my club is considered for the “International Winner” competition?

Simply make sure that your club fills out the [2011-12 Changemaker Award Brochure](#) in its entirety and submit it to your district governor by 15 March 2012. At the end of the form, be sure to provide the following requested information:

- The number of active members in your club
- The number of total activities completed
- A brief description of your club’s most significant achievement this year
- The name of the club
- The signature of the club president

How will district governors select the district finalist clubs?

District governors will have sole discretion in selecting their district finalist clubs and are under no obligation to publicize their selections at the district level. Governors are encouraged to consider the following factors in making their selections:

- the total number of activities completed compared to other clubs in each respective club size category
- the quality of each club’s most significant achievement compared to other clubs in each club size category

How will RI directors and the RI President make their selections for the Zone and International Winners?

RI directors and the RI President will use the same criteria used by the district governors and will have sole discretion in selecting the winners at the zone and international level, respectively.

Timeline for the 2011-12 Changemaker Award

1 July 2011 – 15 March 2012

- Clubs undertake activities recommended in the 2011-12 Changemaker Award Brochure

15 March 2012

- Deadline for clubs to submit their completed 2011-12 Changemaker Award Brochure to district governors

22 March 2012

- Deadline for district governors to report the names of all qualifying clubs to RI by using Member Access (instructions will be provided to district governors in a separate e-mail message from RI)
- Deadline for district governors to indicate their district’s three finalists (top small, medium, and large club in the district) in Member Access. All district finalists will be shared with the appropriate RI director for review.

1 April 2012

- Deadline for RI directors to select their zone winners (top small, medium, and large club in the zone) and report them to RI.

6 April 2012

- The RI President will select from the zone winners three international winners (top small, medium, and large club in the Rotary world) and invite them to be recognized on stage at the 2012 RI Convention in Bangkok, Thailand, 6-9 May 2012.