

Information Brochure

The Rotary National Science & Technology Forum

Auckland 11th – 25th January 2025

Contact: rotarysciencetechnologyforum@gmail.com

The Forum is an opportunity for high school or college students in Year 12 who enjoy Science, Mathematics and/or Technology subjects to find out about study and career opportunities available to them.

Are you considering taking a science, mathematics and/or technology degree?

At Forum 2025 we will give you an idea of how you could make this a reality. For 14 days you will spend time with 167 other students like you who have the same ideas. You will get a glimpse of the wide range of opportunities available for study that will be open to you at the end of next year. You will also have opportunities to see where science, mathematics or technology qualifications could take you and then be able to form a clear idea of what is required to get into the courses you wish to study.

What the Forum aims to do

If you are selected to attend the Forum you will be exposed to some of the more recent developments in the Science, Mathematics & Technology fields. You will have the opportunity to work in the laboratories and field stations of tertiary institutions around Auckland where you will meet experts in these fields who are willing to share with you their knowledge and enthusiasm for their chosen subjects. Visiting organisations such as Landcare Research, ESR Forensics, TVNZ, Auckland Zoo and/or other similar companies will enable you to develop a sense of the impact that Science & Technology makes across a range of industry sectors as well as appreciate the strong global reputation New Zealand has in this area. We believe you will develop a sense of the range of opportunities available to you and that you will be able to identify the pathways that will allow you to become a part of this exciting and fast expanding world.

What will it be like at Forum 2025

If you attend the Forum you should get a feel for what 'going to Uni' is all about. You will visit the different campuses around Auckland and attend lectures, labs and field trips that cover a wide range of subjects. You will experience something of the true life of a student by being responsible for managing yourself and your time. Your days will be filled with academic modules and in the evenings you will be visiting science / hi-tech organisations, hearing from experts, spending some time with your peers and having a great deal of fun.

What is in the Academic Programme?

This Programme is an interesting mix of the traditional and the unexpected. In addition to Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Applied Mathematics and Psychology, you will have exposure to subjects such as Molecular Biology, Biomedical Engineering, Nutrition, Electronics/Robotics, Built Environment and others.

What else?

You will have discussions on preparing for University and other topical issues. There will be a range of fun activities organised as well as a Formal Dinner where you will meet guests from the Rotary Clubs, the Science & Technology communities and Industry Leaders. You will participate in various recreational and sporting activities, debating, problem solving and have some free time to relax.

You will not be left on your own

The first people you will meet at the Forum will be a team of Advisors who are former students of the Forum. These Advisors will be there to advise, assist, guide and mentor you. They will pass on good ideas based on their own experiences and will ensure you have a very interesting and exciting time at the Forum. You will, however, be responsible for making your own choices and decisions.

Networking

At the Forum you will meet many like-minded people with interests like yours. You will be one of the 160+ students selected from Secondary Schools throughout New Zealand who also have a strong interest in science, mathematics and technology subjects. The associations you make at the Forum will endure long after the event.

Travel to and from and Living at the Forum

Being at the Forum is a 14-day full on experience. You will live in single roomed accommodation at a University Hall of Residence at the University of Auckland. Student Advisors and approved Rotary appointed adults will live with you for the duration of the Forum.

If you live within *150 kilometres of Auckland University*, you will be required to make your own way to and from the Forum.

If you live beyond this distance, we will organise air or bus travel for your return journey to Auckland. You will be met at the airport or bus terminal **by members of the team of Student Advisors** and will travel to the University Hall of Residence together.

The registration fee includes all meals, accommodation and transport only if you live more than *150km from Auckland*.

Who can apply?

To be selected for a place at The Rotary National Science & Technology Forum in January 2025 **you must be a New Zealand Citizen or hold Permanent Residency status in New Zealand**, be a student in Year 12 at a New Zealand Secondary School who is planning to return to school to complete Year 13, who is considering tertiary study in New Zealand in Science, Mathematics and/or Technology and who wishes to pursue a career in these or aligned fields.

The Forum programme is designed for students who have a strong interest in Science, Mathematics and Technology who are currently in **Year 12** and who intend to progress to Year 13. If you are aged **between 16 years 3 months and 17 years 6 months on 1st January 2025** your application will have preference. If you are currently in Year 11 but doing Year 12 papers you will be asked to wait another year to apply. If you are currently in Year 13 you are unfortunately not eligible to apply.

How to apply?

You will need to fill in FOUR PARTS by **Friday 23 August 2024** on our new website

www.rotaryscienceforum.nz:

- PART ONE: Complete and submit the online Application Base Data Form and save the email copy received as a PDF;
- PART TWO: Complete the Application Supplementary Information Form and save as a PDF;
- PART THREE: Complete the Applicant and Parent/Guardian Declaration Form online [make the form name a link to its location], print, sign, scan and save as a PDF;
- PART FOUR: Email the three completed PDF documents, including two Supporting Letters, one from your Head of Science and one to the local Rotary Club President

What happens next?

Your application will be considered by Rotarians from your local Rotary Club who may interview you. Rotary Club nominations are sent to a Rotary District Committee for further selection. A member of the District Committee will contact you personally to inform students of their selection. You will need to **confirm** your **acceptance** and **arrange immediate payment of your agreed share of the \$2,395.00** Registration Fee (incl. GST) to your local Rotary Club. While many Clubs offer to sponsor part of this fee, this is not guaranteed, and you may need to source other financial assistance.

Rotary Involvement

The Rotary National Science and Technology Forum is a programme promoted, organised and operated by the Rotary Clubs of New Zealand. These Clubs are responsible for managing student selection, travel to and from Auckland for students residing more than *150 km from Auckland*, and for student welfare at the Forum. The Forum Director and his team are supported in their roles by a group of Rotarians from local Rotary Clubs.

Due care and consideration relating to any unforeseen events or circumstances that may affect the running of the Forum or the safety of students attending the Forum will be taken.

Application Process Timeline:

- 23 August Applications close
- 20 September Rotary Club Interviews completed.
- 27 September Final Rotary Club nominations to be with Rotary District Coordinators.
- 29 October Successful Applicants & their supporting Clubs to be advised by Rotary District Coordinators.
- 2 November Student portion of registration fee payments to be made to nominating Rotary Club.
- Mid December Forum Handbook to be mailed directly to successful Applicants.

Travel information and e-tickets, where applicable, as well as Forum details will be emailed directly to successful applicants.