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The Rotary National Science & Technology Forum

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To the School Principal

The 35th Annual Rotary National Science & Technology Forum is scheduled to take place in Auckland from **Saturday 11 January to Saturday 25 January 2025**. It is aimed at Year 12 students who demonstrate a strong interest in Science, Mathematics and/or Technology. Over the past 34 years we have introduced many students to an initial taste of university life, the wide range of Science, Mathematics and Technology subjects offered at university and an idea of the career opportunities available through these studies. Most of the past Forum students have excelled in undergraduate and postgraduate studies as well as in their careers.

Full details of the application and selection process are on our website www.rotaryscienceforum.nz and have been shared with your Head of Science/Technology/Mathematics. We would appreciate it if you could engage with them to facilitate this process as your support, endorsement, and encouragement of students to apply from your school is invaluable.

If your school has previously sent students to the Forum, you will no doubt have received first-hand reports from them on how they seized the opportunities offered and how enormously they benefited from the programme. Our focus is on providing a strong, well balanced academic programme but we also ensure this is mixed with a range of sporting, problem solving and leisure activities, workplace visits and the opportunity to develop friendships with peers who have similar interests and abilities. In our experience, many of these students return to school in student leadership roles and most of them confirm the experiences they had, and the skills they developed during the Forum, benefit these roles. From all the feedback we receive after each Forum it is evident students return to Year 13 more motivated and determined than ever to succeed.

The registration fee per student to attend the 2025 Forum is \$2,395.00 including GST. This covers the costs of feeding and accommodating the Forum attendees in comfort and to provide most of what is necessary for their instruction, leisure, and entertainment for two weeks. While it is anticipated students will pay part of this fee, most Rotary Clubs are able to provide financial assistance. It would be helpful if your School would consider providing some financial support and/or assistance with sourcing additional sponsorship for your student/s. Please be assured all due care and consideration will be given to the health and well-being of the students while in our care.



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Your consideration of the Forum dates when planning prefect training or other school programmes likely to involve selected students would be appreciated. Alternatively, granting of a “leave pass” from these events if they apply to your student/s who are successful in securing a place at the Forum. This will ensure these students are able to focus on and attend 100% of the two-week residential Forum programme without compromise. We believe these capable students will catch up quickly on any out-of-term school events they may have been unavailable to attend.

Finally, we emphasise we are a NATIONAL Forum with attendance by students from each of the five Rotary Districts covering New Zealand. Although the students attend lectures and laboratory sessions at academic institutions in Auckland, no effort is made to recruit them to any of these institutions for their tertiary education. One of the underlying goals of this programme is to promote awareness and understanding of the variety of scientific disciplines available to students as career options and to enable students to select courses for tertiary study that will facilitate New Zealand’s future advances and leadership in the Science, Mathematics and/or Technology and associated fields.

Any queries you have regarding the 2025 Forum may be directed to myself or our Forum Administrator.

We look forward to receiving applications from your school.

Kind regards

Enrico

Dr Enrico Haemmerle
Forum Director



National Science and
Technology Forum