



10 – 24 January 2026, Auckland

Information Flyer

The Rotary National Science and Technology Forum (aka 'Forum') is an opportunity for New Zealand Secondary School students in Year 12, who enjoy Science, Technology and/or Mathematics subjects, to find out about study and career opportunities available to them.

Are you considering taking a Science, Technology and/or Mathematics degree?

At Forum we will give you an idea of how you could make this a reality. For 14 days you will spend time with 167 other like-minded students and get a glimpse of the wide range of areas available for study that will be open to you at the end of 2026. You will also have opportunities to see where science, technology or mathematics 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, Technology and Mathematics 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 their knowledge and enthusiasm for their chosen subjects. Visits to organisations such as Centre for Brain Research, ESR Forensics, Fisher & Paykel Healthcare, Landcare Research and other similar companies will enable you to develop a sense of the impact that STEM makes across a variety of industry sectors, as well as appreciate the strong global reputation New Zealand has in this area. We believe you will develop an understanding of the range of opportunities available to you and 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?

If you attend the Forum you should get a feel for what 'going to Uni' is all about. You will visit 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 living in student halls of residence and being responsible for managing yourself and your time. Your days will be filled with academic modules and in the evenings you will visit science / hi-tech organisations, hear from STEM experts, spend time with your peers and have 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 Biomedical Engineering, Nutrition, 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 mid-programme informal dinner and closing Formal Dinner, where you will meet guests from 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 on your own

The first people you will meet at the Forum will be a team of Advisors who are former attendees at 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. You will be one of 168 students selected from Secondary Schools throughout New Zealand who also have a strong interest in science, technology and mathematics subjects. The connections 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 room 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 venue for the start and end of 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 Advisors team** and will travel to the University Hall of Residence together.

The registration fee covers the cost of accommodation, all meals, transport to the Forum's Academic Programme lectures and Technical Visits, and most activities. Travel costs to and from the Forum for students who reside beyond a 150km radius of Auckland CBD are covered by sponsorship.

Who can apply?

To be selected for a place at The Rotary National Science & Technology Forum in January 2026 **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, Technology and/or Mathematics 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, Technology and Mathematics 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 2026** 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?

There are **SIX** steps to complete by **Friday 29 August 2025** which are outlined on our website rotaryscienceforum.nz:

- STEP ONE: Complete and submit the online Application Base Data Form and save the email copy received as a PDF.
- To complete this form you will need to know:
1. Your New Zealand Permanent Residency number (if not a NZ Citizen)
 2. The name of your nominating Rotary Club to whom your application will be sent (your school Head of Science/Technology/Mathematics, or Principal, or school administrator can advise the name of the Rotary Club supporting your school if you have not already made a connection with a Rotary Club)
 3. Measles vaccination information
- STEP TWO: Complete the Application Supplementary Information Form and save as a PDF;
- STEP THREE: Complete the Applicant and Parent/Guardian Declaration Form online, print, sign, scan and save as a PDF;
- STEP FOUR: Obtain a signed letter of support from your school Head of Science/Technology/Mathematics, or the Principal, confirming their support of your application. Save as a PDF.
- STEP FIVE: Write a letter addressed to the President of your nominating Rotary Club outlining the motivation for your application and the reasons why you believe you should be selected. Save as a PDF.
- STEP SIX: Email all completed PDF documents reference above in ONE email to the Forum Administration by **24:00/midnight on Friday 29 August** at rotarysciencetechnologyforum@gmail.com

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 Coordinator for further selection. A member of the nominating Rotary Club will contact you personally to inform you of the status of your selection.

If successful, you will need to **confirm** your **acceptance** and **arrange immediate payment of your agreed share of the \$2,495.00 GST incl** Registration Fee to your nominating Rotary Club. While many Clubs offer to sponsor part of this fee, this is not guaranteed, and you may need to locate other sources of 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 under the Rotary National Science and Technology Trust. The Trust, through its Rotarian volunteers, is 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 the Forum Management team are supported in their roles by a group of Rotarians from local Rotary Clubs.

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

Application Process Timeline:

29 August	Applications close
19 September	Rotary Club Interviews completed.
26 September	Final Rotary Club nominations to be with Rotary District Coordinators.
17 October	Nominating Rotary Clubs advised of status of their applicants by Rotary District Coordinators.
18-20 October	Nominating Rotary Clubs contact applicants
7 November	Student portion of registration fee to be paid to nominating Rotary Club by successful applicants.
Mid December	Forum Handbook to be e-mailed directly to successful Applicants.

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