

AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST – 2023-2024

The American Legion Auxiliary, _____ wishes to encourage students, grades 3 through 12, to participate in an Americanism Essay Contest. Each year the National American Legion Auxiliary chooses an Americanism subject for this contest. Essays are judged on the local level, sent on to state for judging, then to Division, and finally to National. The local level for _____ and any Home Schoolers in the mentioned school districts. The Americanism Essay contest is divided into 6 classes covering 10 grade levels. The following information pertains to this years' contest.

TITLE: “What does patriotism mean to you?”

CLASS I	Grades 3 and 4	150-250 Words
CLASS II	Grades 5 and 6	250-300 Words
CLASS III	Grades 7 and 8	350-400 Words
CLASS IV	Grades 9 and 10	450-500 Words
CLASS V	Grades 11 and 12	450-500 Words
CLASS VI	Students with special needs	Word count should correspond with student's grade level.

SPONSOR: _____ Unit Chairman and Unit contact information

REQUIREMENTS

FORM: Essays may be handwritten or typed; however, typed is preferred.

Essays should have a 1" margin on all sides.

Even though cover sheet is used, students should print or sign name on last sheet.

Enclosed cover sheet must be used as first page of each essay; be sure to complete the cover sheet with proper information and teacher's signature.

Please note: the Student's mailing address is necessary as National sends awards directly to the student.

JUDGING: Essays will be judged on grammar, spelling, content, and following directions (please note requirements). We ask each school to set their own deadline to allow time for them to judge essays and submit the **top 5 from each class** for final judging by Unit 28. This method of having the essays pre-judged should allow for the students to make any necessary corrections to grammar and spelling prior to the final judging by the Auxiliary. **Selected essays must be sent to reach the Unit Chairman by February 17th (Unit Chairman can pick-up Essays from the School, or District Office, if contacted in advance).** Teachers: Please remember to provide the total number of participants.

AWARDS: A certificate will be provided for each participant; the teachers will need to insert student's names. The Unit winner in each of the 6 Classes will receive \$10 and a citation. Divisional level winner in each of the 6 classes will receive \$50 and a \$50 honorarium in the student's name to the National Presidents' Children of Warriors Scholarship Fund.