

GUIDELINES: CONSTITUTION DAY ESSAY CONTEST

For students in grades 4-12 who reside in or attend school in Los Alamos County

Deadline: 5:00 PM, September 17, 2021

The Awards Ceremony will take place at the Constitution Day Dinner
sponsored by the Republican Party of Los Alamos.

Cottonwood on the Greens, 6:00-8:00 PM, September 25, 2021.

Winners will be notified by September 19, 2021, and will be invited to bring one guest and attend the dinner at no cost. The winners will be invited, but not required, to read their essays at the dinner.

Essay Guidelines:

The Constitution Day Essay Contest is designed to challenge students to learn more about the Constitution and to express original, thoughtful ideas in essay writing. Essays will be judged on how completely and clearly the ideas are stated and supported. Grammar, spelling and punctuation will also be considered.

Grades 4-6: Write an original essay of no more than 350 words.

Based on the U.S. Constitution, discuss how the government gets its power from the people. Explain whether the Constitution granted enough power or not enough power to its citizens. Support your conclusion.

Middle School: Write an original essay of no more than 450 words.

Based on the U.S. Constitution, discuss how the government gets its power from the people. Explain whether the Constitution granted enough power or not enough power to its citizens. Support your conclusion.

High School: Write an original essay of no less than 450 words and no more than 600 words.

Discuss the reasons for the creation of the Electoral College. Compare the Electoral College system versus election of the president by popular vote, discussing the advantages and disadvantages of both for voters and states. State your opinion as to whether or not the Electoral College should be maintained. Support and defend your conclusion.

1. Do not put your name or contact information on your essay pages.
2. Essays must be typed (not hand-written) and double-spaced. Pages must be numbered.
3. Complete the entry form. This should be the only place your name and contact information appear.
4. Do not fold your essay. Place the completed entry form and essay inside a large envelope and seal.
5. Write on the outside of the envelope your grade level as of August 12, 2021. No other writing should appear on the envelope.
6. Turn your entry in no later than 5:00 p.m., September 17, 2021. Entries cannot be mailed, emailed or uploaded electronically. Place your entry envelope in the box marked "CONSTITUTION DAY ESSAY ENTRIES" at Aspen Copies, 1907 Central Ave., Los Alamos. For questions or if you need assistance with printing or delivery of your entry, contact contest sponsors at constitutiondayessaycontest@gmail.com.

Any entry that does not follow the above guidelines shall be disqualified.
Contest is sponsored by the Los Alamos Federated Republican Women.