

# 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> Grade Writing Contest Information

This \$250 contest is administered through the Philipsburg Area Education Foundation (PAEF). The intent of this contest and required essay is to get students writing, learning and looking forward to the next level of training needed to be successful adults. It is the intent of PAEF to make two awards. One will be in the Philipsburg/Georgetown area and one in the Drummond/Hall area. The most current information and application form is available at: [www.paefmt.com](http://www.paefmt.com).

## ELIGIBILITY:

The contest is open to all 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> grade students with residency in Granite County.  
LATE and/or INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS AND ESSAYS shall not be considered.

**TOPIC:** 1 or 2-year Technical Certification versus 4+-year University Degree or Apprenticeship Training

The topic intent is to encourage students to explore the benefits of post-secondary education, comparing and contrasting at least two types of credentials, and then making an argument based on research data – getting students at an earlier stage in high school to start thinking about going to college, vocational training or apprenticeship training. Writers must examine a particular job and make an argument for one type of training over another, but at least two types of training have to be presented.

## SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Complete the Scholarship Application (see [paefmt.com](http://paefmt.com) for application forms)
2. Write an essay of at least 500 words in length on the given topic
3. Essay must have a title that reflects the essay content
4. Essay must be typed using a standard size 12 font and double-spaced
5. Essay must be persuasive, reflecting Montana Standards for Writing for Grades 9/10
6. Essay must include research data from the *Montana Labor Market Information* website: [lmi.mt.gov](http://lmi.mt.gov)
7. Refer to the rubric for evaluation; DO NOT print the evaluation rubric sheets for submission.

## EVALUATION:

Up to three essays from each Granite County high school shall be chosen by their school's selection process and forwarded for final evaluation and award through a committee comprised of community members. If your school chooses not to participate, including homeschool students and all other Granite County students, mail essay and application form directly to the Committee. Essays must be handed directly to a PAEF board member or mailed by the last Friday March to:

**PAEF, P. O. Box 900, Philipsburg, MT 59858.** Mark the envelope with "9/10<sup>th</sup> grade Writing Contest."

Essay evaluation shall include standards as listed in the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) *College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards: Writing Standards and Language Standards for Grades 9/10*: These standards can be accessed at [www.opi.mt.gov](http://www.opi.mt.gov) - Montana Common Core Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects by Grade-Band.

## AWARD:

The winning student will receive a cash award. The winning student must give consent to PAEF to publish their name and essay in their newsletter and news releases.

# 9/10<sup>th</sup> Grade Writing Contest Application

Name:		Date:
Mailing Address:		Phone:
City and State:		Zip:
Social Security # _____ - _____ - _____	Email address:	
Parent or Guardian Information:		
Father's Name:	Mother's Name:	
School Attended: _____ Drummond _____ Philipsburg _____ Home School		
Grade: _____ 9th _____ 10th		
Topic for essay: 1 or 2-year Technical Certification versus 4+-year University Degree or Apprenticeship Training		
Your title for essay:		
<p>Evaluation: Standards for Grades 9/10 as listed in the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) <i>College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards: Writing Standards and Language Standards</i>. These standards can be accessed at <a href="http://www.opi.mt.gov">www.opi.mt.gov</a> <i>Montana Common Core Standards for English Language Arts &amp; Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects by Grade-Band</i>. See the rubric for evaluation, but do not print and submit the evaluation pages.</p>		
<p>Authorization of Use: If my essay is judged to be the winner, I give my consent to its being published in my name in PAEF's publications and news releases.</p>		
Student signature:	Date:	
Parent signature:	Date:	
NOTE: Late and/or incomplete applications and essays shall not be considered. The winner of this contest shall be notified in writing and invited to attend PAEF's scholarship reception in April. The location shall be communicated at a later date.		