



## FAQ 2024 Student Essay Contest

Here are our FAQs, a lot of the information found here is also on our [Essay Contest Rules page found here](#).

**Q: If I have graduated December 2023, am I still able to submit my essay?**

- Yes, if you have taken courses in Fall of 2023 you are defined as someone who attends school in the 2023/2024 school year and can submit your work to the 2024 Student Essay Contest.

**Q: Do I have to write my paper on one of the “example questions”?**

- You can write your paper using the “example questions” but the topic of the paper is completely up to you. All we ask is you pick a topic that is a current event and that you connect it to one of our essential scholars.

**Q: I don’t reside in Canada, can I still take part in the essay contest?**

- Yes, if you are a Canadian citizen residing outside of Canada you are eligible to participate in this essay contest. If you are residing outside of Canada you will be expected to provide proof of Canadian citizenship.

**Q: Will I get confirmation that my essays has been received once I’ve submitted my application?**

- Yes, once you have submitted your essay you will get an email verifying we have received your application.

**Q: How will I be notified once winners are chosen?**

- ALL participants will receive an email with regards to whether they have won the contest or not. This information will be finalized early fall 2024 (late August- early September). We appreciate your patience.

**Q: Is there a rubric available for this essay contest?**

- There is no official rubric for this essay contest but entries will be judged on originality, clear expression of ideas, the ability to empirically support their argument and understanding of competitive markets and/or the impact of government intervention. We encourage you to read through the prompt thoroughly and we believe it might be helpful to look through our previous winning essays for structural examples.

**Q: I am an international student studying in Canada can I participate in the Essay Contest?**

- Yes, if you are an international student studying in Canada, you would qualify to submit an essay in our Student Essay Contest.

**Q: What is the structure of the essay contest?**

- We don't require a specific internal structure to the content of the essay contest. However, we do require the essays to be 1,000-1,500 words, a cover page with name, email, address, phone number, and references for cited academic sources. Please read through our Essay Contest Rules found [here](#).

**Q: What qualifies as high school?**

- A high school student is defined as anyone in/between Grade 9 through Grade 12.

**Q: I graduate high school in May 2023, which category do I submit to?**

- Based on your enrollment in a high school class in Winter 2023/24 then you would qualify for the high school category.

**Q: I've chosen to write my essay with my peers, is there a limited on the number of authors who write an essay together?**

- No there is not a limit to the number of authors, however when submitting the essay all authors names, mailing addresses, emails and phone number must be present on the cover page. If the essay is chosen as a winning paper the prize will be split evenly between the authors. Only one essay submission is necessary for essays with more than one author. Please read our section about multiple authors in the [Essay Contest Rules](#).

**Q: I can't think of a current topic that I want to write about, what should I do?**

- Although we encourage writers to generate their topic based on their own interests, we provide example questions on our [Essay Contest website](#). You may use one of these questions to write your essay on if you so choose, but it is not required to use the example questions. It may also be helpful to use our [Essential Scholars website](#) to learn more about the Essential Scholar included in the example question you may use.

**Q: Can I use AI to assist in writing my essay?**

- No, we do not allow for the use of AI for this essay contest and we do monitor for plagiarism. Essays that utilize AI will be disqualified from the contest.

**Q: Can I write my essay in another language? (e.g. French)**

- Essays will only be assessed in English, so essays written in other languages will be put through a translator, and this may eliminate some of the nuances or language-specific wording that may impact the quality of your essay. You may submit your essay in another language at your own discretion based on this understanding.