



**Texas Lions MD-2 Opportunities for Youth  
“DIABETIC AWARENESS ESSAY”**

**Contestant Rules for District 2-S3**

**“Type I DIABESTES – Prospects for a Cure”**

Your essay should analyze the latest research and treatments available. Present your best case. Plagiarism will disqualify a contestant.

Please read carefully the following information on recommendations for preparing your essay. Pay particular attention to the criteria on how your essay will be judged!

Research for this topic can be conducted by interviewing school officials, teachers, doctors, nurses, other medical professionals, diabetes research organizations, individuals who have diabetes, the internet, and by using the library. Sources of data and quotes should be identified by title and date published (year if known).

The Diabetic Essay shall be a written article. The winning contestant will read their essay at the Mid-Winter Conference luncheon.

The essay shall not exceed 1500 words. All words in the essay are counted including articles, conjunctives, and pronouns. For example: “a”, “I,” “the,” “and,” and “an”.

Each contestant must personally research, write, and read your essay. You will present it before spectators and a panel of judges. The essay must include a bibliography of sources used in its composition. Note: the bibliography is not included in the 1500 word essay count.

The following are the criteria used for judging essays:

- a) Sixty percent (60%): will be based on the authenticity, current information, and application of the assigned essay topic.
- b) Fifteen percent (15%): grammar, sentence structure, pronunciation, enunciation, correct word usage, and relationship to the assigned essay.
- c) Twenty-five percent (25%): understandability of the essay through personal presentation techniques, use of posture, eye contact and voice by its modulation, volume, speed, and clarity.

Each Contestant must be a full time student in a Texas high school or comparable education program, must be a junior or senior class member at the time of the contest and be sponsored by a Lion/Leo Club in District 2-S3.

Each Lion/Leo Club may sponsor only one contestant to the Mid-Winter Contest for this essay contest.

If a run off from your school is needed your club's judges should be persons who are knowledgeable about diabetes, grammar and speech giving techniques.

Each entrant shall compete with other contestants at the Mid-Winter Conference held in Lago Vista, Saturday, January 17, 2009. Time to be determined by number of contestants.

Contestants will draw for positions and remain outside the contest area until invited to enter by the contest official.

Contestants will not give any self-introduction, but give the title of their essay and then deliver the speech. The audience will be informed before the first contestant to not applaud at the conclusion of the essay reading.

Following the contestant's presentation he/she will take a seat in the assigned area and remain until the final essay is presented.

If time allows, persons involved in the conduct of the contest, as well as parents, chaperones and guests of each contestant may be introduced.

The winners will be announced during the Mid-Winter Luncheon at noon. The winner will be asked to read their essay.

The first and second place winners will receive a medallion and be instructed where and how to apply for a \$500.00 and \$200.00 Savings Bonds respectively. All contestants will receive a Certificate.

There is no entry fee.

Contestants will not advance to the MD competition in Lubbock, Texas due to the cost to each club for lodging, transportation and meals. These funds will be best expended to financially support each contestant's education in the form of scholarships.

Each contestant shall be accompanied by a chaperone from their sponsoring Club to the Mid-Winter Conference. The Mid-Winter Conference will provide lunch for all contestants.

Deadline for entries: November 21, 2008

PLEASE EMAIL YOUR ESSAY to Lion Shirley Dillman and mail the application with pictures.

Direct all questions and send applications with required information to:

Lion Shirley Dillman  
District 2-S3 Chairperson  
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