

2023 County Essay Contest

April is National County Government Month and the County Commission Association of West Virginia is hosting its annual Essay Contest for 8th grade students across West Virginia beginning April 1.

The goal of the contest is to increase public awareness and knowledge about county government. Participating students are required to write a 500-word (400 minimum) essay on the topic of: “How does my county commission make life better for me?” The essay must specifically address the county commission of the county where the student resides. Each student is limited to one entry.

The deadline for submissions is 5 p.m., April 25 and the winners will be announced the second week of May. Entries and applications must be submitted through the CCAWV website by going to <https://www.ccawv.org/education/essay-contest/about-the-contest>.

Prizes include: 1st, student \$500; teacher \$500 for classroom activities; 2nd prize, student, \$300; third prize, \$200; Honorable mention: five students will receive \$50.

Letters along with the contest rules have been mailed to each county board of education.

Each teacher must completely fill out an official application and submit the essay online at <https://www.ccawv.org/education/essay-contest/about-the-contest>.

All entries must contain the student’s name, email address, and the county name in which the essay is about.

All entries must be submitted in Microsoft Word or PDF format and must be submitted by the student’s teacher.

The winning students and his/her teachers will be invited to a County Commission meeting in their home county to receive their awards.

The 1st place winning essay will be posted on the CCAWV website: <https://www.ccawv.org>

Essays will be judged on the following criteria: Understanding of the role of county commission; grammar and spelling; clarity and organization of thought.

By entering the contest, each student and teacher agrees to allow his/her name to be used in a news release announcing the contest winner in the event their essay is selected as a winning essay. In addition, they agree to allow their photograph to be published in the CCAWV Newsletter and on the CCAWV website.

Entries will not be returned.