

OFFICIAL ESSAY CONTEST RULES AND REQUIREMENTS

YOUR VOTE • YOUR VOICE OUR DEMOCRACY THE 19TH AMENDMENT AT 100



1. The contest is open to New Mexico high school juniors and seniors only.
2. All entries must be submitted to www.nmbar.org/EssayContest no later than 5 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 30.
3. All fields on the online entry form must be completed.
4. Each entry must be a Word Document, using 12-point Arial or Times New Roman font, double-spaced. (Max file size, 20 MB)
5. Each entry must contain 1,000 to 1,500 words (not including heading information).
6. The heading at the top of the first page must include:
 - ✓ Name of the student
 - ✓ Name of the school
 - ✓ Name of the teacher
 - ✓ Word count (not including heading)
7. Essays must be the original work of the student. Plagiarism will not be tolerated.
8. Essays will be judged by State Bar members and staff, and a distinguished panel of judges representing courts statewide.
9. Judging will utilize the Public School Generic Essay Scoring Rubric in the following areas:
 - ✓ Content: Demonstrates clear understanding; deals with subject in strong and convincing manner; uses persuasive information.
 - ✓ Originality: Demonstrates creativity or originality; strongly shows writer's attitude or point of view in a meaningful and original way; thesis clearly supported.
 - ✓ Writing Style: Well-organized and focused; begins and ends effectively; strong development; writing style and structure reinforce tone and content; no grammatical errors; authoritative, using appropriate vocabulary and tone.
10. The awards are as follows:
 - ✓ 1st Place, \$1,000 and 1st Place Winner's Teacher, \$500
 - ✓ 2nd Place, \$750
 - ✓ 3rd Place, \$500
11. Winners will be notified via email by Monday, Oct. 19.
12. The State Bar of New Mexico reserves the right to reprint the essays and to release the winning essays to local newspapers for publication. All essays will become the property of the State Bar for publicity and promotional purposes.

Entries that do not follow all rules will be disqualified.

Submit essays online: www.nmbar.org/EssayContest

For more information, call Member Services, 505-797-6039.