

The Historical Importance of the 19th Amendment Essay Award



About the Award:

The Iowa State Education Association is committed to advocating for Iowa's Public Education System. This award supports educators who are working to increase their students' critical thinking skills and to recognize students' exemplary work in this area.

Who is Eligible?

All Iowa students enrolled in Iowa's public schools grades 3-12 or an Iowa Community College.

Students must submit original work.

There are four categories for participation:

- Grades 3 – 5
- Grades 6 – 8
- Grades 9 – 12
- Community College

Deadline:

Upload/received by deadline: May 8, 2020, 11:59 p.m.

Essays will be accepted beginning April 20, 2020.

Why Apply?

This essay contest allows Iowa students the opportunity to explore the historical importance of the 19th Amendment while engaging in critical thinking and writing about the lasting impact of the Amendment on our world today.

Topic:

This year marks the Centennial of the 19th Amendment. This significant milestone allows us to reflect on the importance of democracy in the United States and on the role that each of us plays in ensuring that democracy endures. The synthesis of historical events and current reality is fundamental to the health of our nation.

Participants may choose from writing about topics involving the struggle to pass the 19th Amendment and women in politics; suffrage leaders and organizers; how the roles of women have changed between now and then; how the suffrage movement has influenced their lives; and how the movement created the foundation for today's advocacy among just a few examples.

Format:

The essay will be scored on the following factors:

At least 300 words for grades 3 – 5.

At least 500 – with a maximum of 1500 words for grades 6 – Community College.

Organization & Progression (on topic, flows smoothly). Development of Ideas (details & elaboration).

Use of Language / Conventions & Grammar (writer's word choice and language).

Entries may be typed or handwritten but must be double-spaced.

Entering:

Entries may be submitted by email to mike.beranek@isea.org or mailed through the U.S. Postal Service to ISEA Headquarters.

Send mailed entries to:

Iowa State Education Association
Attention: President Mike Beranek
777 Third Street
Des Moines, IA 50309



Award Recognition:

First Place: \$50.00 and publication in the ISEA Communique Newsletter.

Winners will be notified via email, and the names of winners will be announced in May. Winning essays also will be posted on isea.org.

Resources:

https://19th-amendment-centennial.org/sites/default/files/learning_resources_curriculum_background.pdf

Official Rules:**Section I – General Rules**

1. Contestants must compose an original essay with limited guidance from others.
2. The Iowa State Education Association will have the right to edit, publish or otherwise duplicate any essay or part thereof entered in the contest without payment to the author. All essays become property of ISEA.

Section II – Qualifications for Contestants

1. The contest is open to all Iowa public school students in grades 3-12 and Community College.
2. Contestants may submit only one essay entry during any given contest period.

Section III – Contest Rules

1. Participants must write on the official topic. The topic for this award period is the 19th Amendment and how it impacts them or their generation.
2. Each entry must include the Contest Entry Title Page (entry form) or submit a cover page containing the same information found on the Entry Form.
3. Essays may be typewritten or legibly handwritten but must be double-spaced.
4. Essays must contain no more than 300 words for students in grades 3 – 5 and between 500 and 1,500 words for students in grades 6 through Community College.
5. Every word of the essay is counted but does not include the title, bibliography or footnotes.
6. Any quotations or copyrighted material used in the essay must be cited properly. Failure to identify non-original material will result in disqualification.
7. All entries become the property of ISEA, and permission forms must be signed by guardians and a representative classroom educator for students 3-12.

Section IV – Judging and Timing

1. Judging will be completed by a panel of qualified ISEA judges.

Section V – Scoring of Contest

Scoring procedures at all levels of the contest will be identical:

1. Organization & Progression (on topic, flows smoothly): 45 points
2. Development of Ideas (details and elaboration): 30 points
3. Use of Language/Conventions & Grammar (word choice, formatting and language): 20 points
4. Neatness: 5 points