



Texas Lions MD2 – Opportunities For Youth
“DIABETIC AWARENESS ESSAY”
Contestant Rules

The essay should analyze the latest treatments available and present their effectiveness. Research for this topic can be conducted by interviewing school officials, teachers, doctors, nurses, paramedics, other medical professionals, diabetes research organizations, diabetes patients, the Internet, and by using the library. Sources of data and quotes should be identified by title and date published (year if known). 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 or just graduated at the time of the MD-2 convention and be sponsored by a Lion/Lioness/Leo Club in MD-2. The first place winner of each District contest is eligible to be entered in the State contest.

The Diabetic Essay shall be a written article to be read by the contestant at the MD-2 State Convention in competition with other contestants.

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

Each contestant must personally research, write and read the contest essay and present it before judges and spectators. The essay must include a bibliography of sources used in its composition.

Two or more of the judges should be knowledgeable about the medical aspects of diabetes; one or more should be an educator knowledgeable about English grammar, sentence structure, pronunciation and its correct usage.

The following are the criteria used for judging essays:

1. Sixty percent of the score will be based on the authenticity, current information, and an application of the assigned Essay Topic.
2. Fifteen percent on grammar, sentence structure, pronunciation, enunciation, correct word usage, and relationship to the assigned Essay.
3. Twenty-five percent understandability of the essay through personal presentation techniques in use of posture, eye contact and voice by its modulation, volume, speed, clarity, and enunciation.

The area must have good acoustics, be free from outside noises and disturbances, and have controlled access. No one will be allowed to either enter during an essay, or leave until judges have finished scoring the contestant.

Contestants are required to attend an orientation held at a designated time set forth by the State Chair. They will visit the presentation area, test microphone, and ask questions about contest facilities and procedures. Orientation is for contestants only.

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

Contestants will not give any self-introduction but give the title of their essay and then proceed with the reading. The audience should be informed before the first contestant to not applaud at the end of the essay.

Contestants will then take their seat in the assigned area and remain to hear following essays.

No one is allowed to enter or exit the contest room during a reading.

When all essays have been presented, contestants in the order of their presentations, will one at a time stand and state their names, hometowns, ages, schools, grade levels, and the District and Lions Club sponsors. At the end of this process, the audience may then collectively applaud all contestants. Persons involved in the conduct of the contest, parents, chaperones, and guests of the contestants, will then be introduced.

The winners will be announced during the Texas Lions Youth Luncheon at noon. The winner will present his/her essay at that time. The winner will receive a \$1,000.00 scholarship and the runner-up will receive a \$500.00 scholarship. To collect your scholarship winnings, you must send a receipt from the college, junior college or vocational school of proof of registration or a request for payment from the registrar. Send request of payment to: Lions MD-2 State Executive Secretary – Lion Pat Nations at: P.O. Box 294509 in Kerrville, Texas 78209-4509. You may reach her by phone at: (830) 257-6557 if you have any other questions. The scholarship money will then be sent directly to the school. The scholarship awards must be collected no later than two years following the recipient's graduation from High School.

All contestants must agreed to be available, on request to participate in Texas Lions MD-2 events And activities during the period from immediately after the contest until the end of the following years contest.

The entry fee of \$200.00 (which is paid by the District who is sponsoring the contestant) must be submitted with the State Contest ***Application, Two Photographs*** (head and shoulders close-up), ***Biographical Information, and Three Copies of the Essay***. The sponsoring District must make sure all documents are completed and have all the required signatures and then send to the State Coordinator no later than **May 1, 2008** deadline.

All contestants should be accompanied by a chaperone from their sponsoring District to the convention. The Texas Lions MD-2 State Convention will be responsible for providing 3 meals and lodging at the convention for the contestant. The sponsoring District shall be responsible for all expenses not paid by the MD-2 convention for their contestant and chaperones.

Direct all questions and send applications with required information to:

"OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH"

State Coordinator – DR. EARL & DELORES RYAN

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**Note: Texas Lions MD- 2 State Competitions will be held in Amarillo, Texas on
May 16 – 17, 2008, at the Ambassador Hotel.**