



**Texas Lions MD-2 Opportunities for Youth  
"DIABETIC AWARENESS ESSAY"  
Contest Rules**

***"Diabetes – The Epidemic is Here."***

1. Essay Subject
  - a. *"Diabetes – The Epidemic is Here."* The rate of increase for diabetes has literally reached epidemic proportions, especially in some minority population segments. With the current debate on the nation's health care system, explore the possible ramifications, both monetary and non-monetary, of this growing epidemic on the health care system. Also, explore the available options to deal with the epidemic; medically, legislatively, educationally, etc.
2. Contest Rules
  - a. The Title of the Contestant's essay is not required to be the same as the Subject for the essay. Contestants should be creative in the selection of an essay title and set the tone for their presentation with the title they choose.
  - b. The essays should analyze the problem given in the subject and present a solution or solutions to the problem.
  - c. The topic is broad and allows the contestant considerable leeway in the selection of their solution or solutions.
  - d. Creative, innovative, practical, and reasonable ideas are welcomed.
  - e. Each Contestant shall personally research, write and read his/her contest essay.
  - f. Research for this topic can be conducted by interviewing school officials, teachers, judges, law enforcement personnel, probation personnel, counselors, juvenile court officials, legislators, medical personnel and by using the internet and library.
  - g. The essay shall be a written article, to be read by the Contestant, to be judged by a panel of judges in competition with other Contestants.
  - h. The essay shall not exceed 1500 words.
    - i. All words in the essay are counted including articles, conjunctives and pronouns. Example: "I," "a," "the," "and," and "an."
    - ii. The essay must include a bibliography of sources used in its composition. Note: the bibliography is not included in the 1500 word count.
  - i. The following criteria shall be used for judging the essays:
    - i. Sixty percent (60%) of the score shall be based on the authenticity, current information and an application of the assigned essay topic.
    - ii. Fifteen percent (15%) of the score shall be based on grammar, spelling, sentence structure, pronunciation, enunciation, correct word usage, and relationship to the assigned essay topic.
    - iii. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the score shall be based on the understandability of the essay through personal presentation techniques, in the use of posture, eye contact and voice by its modulation, volume, speed and clarity.

- j. Notes, cue cards and video equipment may not be used at District or MD-2 State contests.
- k. Two or more of the judges should be knowledgeable about the medical aspects of diabetes.
- l. One of more judges should be an educator knowledgeable about the English language, its grammar, sentence structure, pronunciation and correct usage.
- m. All MD-2 contests shall be conducted in the English language and Contestants, during contest presentations, shall speak English.
- n. The contest area must have good acoustics, be free from outside noises and disturbances, and have controlled access.
- o. Immediately prior to the commencement of the contest, Contestants will draw for the order of appearance before the judging panel.
- p. Contestants shall remain outside the contest area until invited to enter by the Contest Official.
- q. The audience will be informed before the first contestant to not applaud at the end of the speech and reminded before each contestant delivers his/her speech of the same requirement.
- r. The audience will be asked to turn off any cell phones and/or electronic devices during the contest time.
  - i. Failure to comply with this rule could result in disqualification of a Contestant at the discretion of the Contest Official.
- s. Contestants will not give any self-introduction but shall state the title of their essay and then deliver the essay.
- t. Following the Contestant's essay he/she will take a seat in the area assigned for the Contestants and remain in the contest area until the final speech is presented, judges have completed scoring the contest and introductions have been completed.
  - i. The Contest Official may allow an exemption of this requirement for medical reasons/emergencies, restroom breaks or for other reasons deemed acceptable by the Contest Official.
  - ii. Request may be made between Contestant presentations only.
- u. No one will be allowed to either enter the contest during an essay, or leave once they have entered until all of the Contestants have presented their essays and the Judges have finished scoring the Contestant.
- v. When all essays have been presented, Contestants, in the order of their presentations, will stand and state their names, hometowns, ages, schools, grade levels, and their District and Lions Club sponsors.
- w. At the end of this process, the audience may then collectively applaud all Contestants.
- x. Persons involved in conducting of the contest; parents, chaperones, and guests of the Contestants, may then be introduced at the discretion of the Contest Official, as time allows.
- y. The winners will be announced during the Texas Lions MD-2 Youth Luncheon at noon.
- z. The 1<sup>st</sup> place winner will read his/her essay at that time.

3. Awards

- a. The 1<sup>st</sup> place winner will receive a \$3,000.00 scholarship.
- b. The 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner will receive a \$1000.00 scholarship.
- c. To collect the scholarship award, the Contestant must complete the following process:
  - i. Contestant must send a request for payment from the registrar of a university, college, junior college or vocational school.
  - ii. Send request for payment to:

**Lions MD-2 State Executive Secretary  
P.O. Box 294509  
Kerrville, Texas 78029-4509.  
(830) 257-6557**

4. If a request for payment from an institute of higher education is received from the school, the scholarship money will be made payable directly to the school.
5. The scholarship awards must be collected no later than two years following the recipient's graduation from High School.
6. Rules of Eligibility for Contestants
  - a. A District may sponsor no more than one Contestant in each contest by submitting a completed entry application (containing all requested signatures), associated documents, and the entry fee to the MD-2 Contest Chairperson prior to the entry deadline.
  - b. A false statement on the entry application, or associated documents, causes disqualification of the Contestant, with the entry fee being forfeited.
  - c. There shall be no refund of any entry fee,
  - d. Each contestant shall have placed first in the District contest during the current Lions' year.
    - i. When a first placed District Contestant is unable to participate in the MD-2 contest, the first alternate contestant from that District, when approved by the MD-2 Contest Chairman, may enter the contest using the original entrant's sponsoring fee.
  - e. Each contestant must be or have been a regularly enrolled student in a public high school or comparable educational program, located in Texas,
  - f. Each contestant must be a junior, senior or immediate graduate at the time of the MD-2 contest.
  - g. Contestants shall not have been married, had a marriage annulled, cohabited with a person of the opposite sex who is unrelated to the Contestant or who has participated in the conception of a child before participation in the MD-2 contest.
7. Responsibilities of Contestants
  - a. Each Contestant shall be required to submit the following to the Contest Coordinator, contact information in paragraph 6.
    - i. **An entry fee of \$200.00** (which is paid by the District who is sponsoring the contestant)
    - ii. **State Contest Application,**
    - iii. **Two wallet-sized color Photographs** (head and shoulders close-up),

- iv. *Personal Biographical Information.*
- v. *Signed Copy of Code of Conduct.*
- vi. *Medical Power of Attorney* designating his/her Chaperone as the Primary Responsible Party and the State Contest Chair as the Secondary Responsible Party.
  - 1. *Three (3) Printed Copies of the Essay.*
- b. The sponsoring District must make sure all documents, outlined above, are completed, have all the required signatures and are sent to the State Coordinator, post-marked no later than the April 23, 2010 deadline.
- c. Attend the MD-2 State Convention in El Paso, Texas on May 14-15, 2010.
- d. Contestants are required to attend an orientation held the evening before the contest at a time set forth by the State Chair.
  - i. Exemption of this requirement may be granted prior to the meeting by the state Contest Coordinator or the State Contest Chair.
  - ii. Contestants will visit the presentation area, test the microphone, and ask any questions they may still have about the contest.
- e. All contestants must agree to be available, upon request to participate in Lions MD-2 events and activities during the period from immediately after the contest until the end of the following years contest.
- 8. Chaperone/Sponsoring Club Responsibilities
  - a. All contestants shall be accompanied by a chaperone from their sponsoring District to the convention.
  - b. The Texas Lions MD-2 State Convention will be responsible for providing 3 meals and one night lodging before the contest at the convention for the contestant.
  - c. The sponsoring District shall be responsible for all expenses not paid by the MD-2 convention for their contestant and chaperones.
  - d. Comply with requirements as set forth in the Texas Lions MD-2 Opportunities for Youth contest Chaperone Guidelines.
- 9. Contest Coordinator Contact Information

**"DIABETIC AWARENESS ESSAY"**  
**Lion PDG Lion Carolyn Dorman**  
**3321 Remington Drive**  
**Plano, Texas 75023**  
**972-596-2051 (home) 972-897-9188 (cell)**  
[chiefcarld@aol.com](mailto:chiefcarld@aol.com)

**Texas Lions MD-2 State Competitions**  
**will be held in**  
**El Paso, Texas**  
**May 14-15, 2010**

**Wyndham Hotel**  
**2027 Airway Blvd, El Paso, TX 79925**  
**(915) 778-4241**



**Texas Lions MD-2 Opportunities for Youth Contests  
Chaperone Guidelines**

As chaperon, your specific duties may vary, but here are some guidelines in supervising your students. As chaperon, you are legally responsible for the students. You will be contacted if your student does not adhere to the rules as outlined in the Texas Lions MD-2 Opportunities for Youth contestant Code of Conduct.

- Be sure they arrive in El Paso, Friday May 14, 2010 unless a waiver has been previously granted by the MD-2 contest Chairperson or Coordinator.
- Be sure your name, cell phone number, hotel and room number (if known) are given to the State Opportunities for Youth Contest Chair upon registration at the Hotel. This information also should be written on the back of the student's name badge. Students are required to wear their badge at all times when outside their hotel room.
- Likewise, be sure your students know your hotel phone number and room number, and at least a partial itinerary of your schedule, so that you can be found easily in an emergency
- Give them your cell phone number and get their cell phone number as well.
- Set up a schedule with your students to check with them periodically, such as meeting them at a designated spot for a few minutes during the day to make sure everything is going okay. At night, go to their hotel room at midnight to check on them. No student is to leave their room after midnight. If not possible to go in person, phone them at this time.
- Remind your students to keep their hotel room doors locked at all times. Boys are not allowed to visit girls' rooms; girls are not allowed to visit boys' rooms. If it is necessary to make an exception, you must be present. Do not let more students stay in a room than are registered for that room.
- No alcoholic beverages or controlled substances (drugs or illegal materials) are allowed.
- Any alleged criminal offenses will be referred to the police.
- Remind your students that they represent their sponsoring Lions club and District, their school, teachers and family and that they are expected to act and dress accordingly as ladies and gentlemen. It is imperative that they be on time for every scheduled event.

Violation of any of the above guidelines could lead to the student's violations of the Contestant's code of Conduct and dismissal from the Texas Lions MD-2 Opportunities for Youth Contest. In this case, parents will be contacted and must make immediate arrangements for their student's immediate transportation home. If you have an issue that needs to be addressed, contact the State Contest Chair - Lion Jake Bentley, (806) 632-0742.

Chaperone Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU FOR SERVING AS CHAPERON.  
THIS DUTY IS BECOMING  
MORE IMPORTANT EVERY YEAR.**



**Texas Lions MD-2 Opportunities for Youth Contests  
Contestant Code of Conduct**

1. It is understood by Contestants and their parents that any infraction of the rules of conduct below or involvement in any illegal activity constitutes grounds for the Contestant's dismissal from the Texas Lions MD-2 Opportunities for Youth Contest(s). The parents will be contacted and **must make immediate arrangements for the student's transportation home.**
2. Contestants must wear their name badges at all times when outside their hotel rooms. (The badge must have the Contestant's designated Chaperone's name and room number on the back).
3. Contestants must remain reasonably quiet at all times in the hotel. TVs, radios and CD players must be played with volume at reasonable levels.
4. There shall be no defacing of hotel or convention property. Any damages to the property or furnishings in the hotel rooms or convention buildings must be paid for by the individuals responsible.
5. Hotel room doors should be locked at all times.
6. Boys are not allowed to visit girls' rooms; girls are not allowed to visit boys' rooms. If it is necessary to make an exception, a **Chaperone must be present.**
7. Curfew for **all** Contestants is midnight. The curfew means that Contestants must be in their rooms and not leave them after this time.
8. Possession or use of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances (drugs or illegal materials) will not be tolerated.
9. Every Contestant is required to be on time for all scheduled events.

I agree to support and abide by the above rules of conduct. I further agree that access to Contestant's room and baggage will be given upon request to a designated Texas Lions MD-2 Opportunities for Youth Contest Official or public safety officer. I also give permission to the Texas Lions MD-2 to use my name and photographic likeness in all forms and media for advertising, trade and any other lawful purposes.

Contestant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contestant's Cell Phone Number: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring Lion Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Chaperone's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Chaperone's Cell Phone Number: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Home Phone Number: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_