



**Texas Lions MD-2**  
**“OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH”**  
**MD-2 Contest Guidelines**

1. The Council of Governors shall determine which Opportunities For Youth contests are to be conducted each year and shall determine the sponsoring entry fee which shall be the same for all contests. The contests are: Diabetic Essay Contest, Drug Awareness Speech Contest, Outstanding Youth Award Contest, and the Peace Poster Contest.
2. MD-2 youth contests shall be conducted at the MD-2 Convention under the direction of the “Opportunities for Youth” State Chairperson chosen by the Council for that year. Each contest will have a Coordinator appointed by the State Chair, who will conduct the contests under the direction of the State Chair for that year.
3. Three judges are to be secured, by the MD-2 State Chair and or the Contest Coordinator, to serve each contest. No judges shall have served for any District contest preparatory for the MD-2 contest, shall not be a member of a club sponsoring a contest preparatory for the MD-2 contest and shall not be related to a contestant in a contest preparatory for the MD-2 Contest.
4. Application to participate in the contest is an agreement by all signatories to the application to comply with all general rules of the contests and the rules of each individual contest, as approved by the Council and interpreted by the MD-2 Contest Chair, Coordinator and by the Council.
5. Rules of eligibility are:
  - a.) A District may sponsor no more than one contestant in each contest by submitting a completed entry application (containing all requested signatures) and the entry fee to the MD-2 Contest Chair prior to the contest deadline date.
  - b.) A false statement on the entry application 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.
  - e.) When a first placed district contestant is unable to participate, the first alternate contestant from that district, (when approved by the MD-2 State Chair) may enter the contest using the original entrant’s sponsoring fee.
  - f.) Each contestant must be or have been a regularly enrolled student in a public high school or comparable educational program, must be a Junior or Senior, or recent graduate at the time of the MD-2 State competitions.
  - g.) Contestants may be required to use a microphone.
  - h.) Contestants will draw for contest participation positions and shall remain outside the contest room until instructed to enter by a Contest Official.

i.) All MD-2 contests shall be conducted in the English language and contestants, during contest presentations, shall speak English.

6. Ranking of contestants in the MD-2 contest shall be:

a.) First place shall be the contestant receiving the highest grand total score, and shall receive a certificate and trophy.

b.) First Runner-Up shall be the contestant receiving the second highest grand total score, and shall receive a certificate and trophy.

7. Awards, certificates, scholar / grants and recognitions, presented to contestants, shall be uniform among all contests. The number of awards and the amount of the scholarship money given will be determined by the Council of Governors. Awards and Scholarship money shall be presented according to contestant's placement in each contest.

8. Scholar/grant awards must be collected no later than two years following the recipient's date of graduation from high school or achievement of the equivalent. Collection shall be by forwarding the amount to the registrar or business office of the post high school educational institution after proof of attendance is received. Uncollected scholar/grants are forfeited and the amount shall be credited to the Council Administrative Fund. Scholar/grants are held in trust by the Council until collected by the recipient or forfeited.

9. Entities such as the Past District Governors Association, the American Diabetes Association, MD-2 Districts, Lions Clubs and other organizations are welcome to show their support for the MD-2 "Opportunities for Youth" program by providing funding for the scholar/grants.

10. The Council shall provide:

a.) Awards, certificates and recognitions, excluding scholar/grants,

b.) Certificates, recognitions and honoraria to contest judges.

c.) For the judges - Food and lodging during service to the contest, and a maximum of two nights lodging, to be arranged by the MD-2 Convention Chairperson

d.) For the contestants – one night of lodging before the contest and three (3) meals.

11. The district and/or club shall be responsible for all expenses not paid by the Council for each contestant and chaperone. All contestants shall be accompanied by a chaperone from their sponsoring District to the convention.

12. MD-2 State Chairperson shall submit a recommendation to the Council about the estimated cost of the following year's contests.

13. The Outstanding Youth Award Contest Coordinator may organize a community service seminar for all MD-2 Opportunities for Youth Contestants. The seminar would include, but not be limited to, utilization of the services of International Officers elected from Texas and MD-2 Chairperson.