



2008 National High School Essay Contest

Official Rules

Last Updated: Dec 8, 2007

- Eligibility** All students in grade twelve or below in the United States or U.S. territories. Eligible students must be attending a public, private, parochial school, home school or participating in a high school correspondence program. Eligibility of prospective winners will be verified before the award of any prizes. Alliance for Science members and their families are not eligible. Essay contest judges and their families are also not eligible.
- Prizes** Winning essays will be posted on the Alliance for Science website, <http://www.allianceforscience.org>. At least three winning essays will be selected, and winning students will receive cash prizes.
- Teacher** Contest registration forms must include a teacher's signature. "Teacher" may include a current or former high-school teacher, counselor, academic advisor, science program coordinator, or science museum staff. Prizes and educational incentives will be offered to teachers of winning students.
- Topic** Contestants must compose and submit an original essay in English of **no longer than one thousand (1,000) words** on either one of the following two topics:

Climate and Evolution

Agriculture and Evolution

Valuable additional discussion of the topics and other important details can be found on the Alliance for Science website.

- Submission** **Submission via electronic mail is preferred.** Email essays should be sent to

afsessay@gmail.com.

For the latest contest information, go to <http://www.allianceforscience.org/essay>

Alternatively, essays may be printed and mailed to:

**The Alliance for Science
P.O. Box 5122
Arlington VA 22205-9998**

Handwritten essays will not be accepted.

Electronically submitted essays must be sent as file attachments to the email. The document must be in one following file formats:

- **Plain text (.txt)**
- **Rich text (.rtf),**
- **Adobe Portable Document Format (.pdf), or**
- **Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx)**

Contest finalists who did not submit their essays via email will be asked to do so prior to announcement of the contest winners.

All submitted essays become the exclusive property of the Alliance for Science. Only one essay per contestant.

Registration All submissions must be accompanied by a completed registration form. Privacy of contestant information will be strictly safeguarded, will not be published (except to announce name and schools of winners), and will not be used for any purpose not strictly related to this essay contest.

Contest finalists who submitted their registration via email will be asked to mail or fax printed and signed copies of their registration forms prior to the announcement of contest winners.

Deadline All submissions must be received by **February 29th, 2008.**

Judging Entries will be judged for the accuracy and relevance of science content, logic, clarity, insight, and the quality of the writing (including spelling, grammar, punctuation, etc.). All sources used to research your essay must be properly cited using footnotes or endnotes. The winners will be selected by the Alliance for Science 2008 National High School Essay Contest Judging Committee. Decisions of the Judging Committee are final.

Rules All issues involving the interpretation of these Official Rules will be decided by the Alliance for Science Board of Directors. While every effort will be made to avoid making unnecessary or frequent changes of these rules, the Alliance for Science reserves the right to change these rules without notice.

For the latest contest information, go to <http://www.allianceforscience.org/essay>