

Knowva Scholar Search

College Essay Contest Rules

Knowva Academy will provide \$1,500 in scholarships for high school students who demonstrate mastery of essay writing skills. The scholarships will be awarded to two winners: the first-place winner will receive \$1,000, and the second-place winner will receive \$500.

Submissions Open	November 13 – January 13, 2023
Submissions Evaluation	January 14 – February 14 , 2023
Winners Announced	February 15, 2023
College Essay Feedback	By March 15, 2023

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. OPEN TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AROUND THE WORLD. ENTRY IN THIS CONTEST CONSTITUTES YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF THESE OFFICIAL RULES.

1. Eligibility

We will accept submissions from high school students around the world. The winners will be required to send us proof of their academic status or enrollment. Each participant may submit only one essay and win one scholarship.

2. Submission Requirement

- The essays can be written from one of the two Common App prompts below:
 - **Prompt #1:** Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
 - **Prompt #7:** Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.
 - Your essay must:
 - ➔ Contain a minimum of 250 words and maximum of 650 words (excluding title, header, and works cited)
 - ➔ Be 100% plagiarism-free
 - ➔ Be submitted in a .doc or .docx format
 - ➔ Be written in MLA style to format the paper and cite sources
 - ➔ The file name should be {KnowvaAcademy Writing Contest_First and Last Name}
 - ➔ Submitted by January 13, 2023, at 8 p.m. EST
- Submit the essay through the contest submission link on Knowva.com

3. Binding Agreement

In order to enter the contest, you must agree to the rules. Therefore, please read these rules prior to entry to ensure you understand and agree. These rules form a binding legal agreement between you and Knowva Academy with respect to the contest.

4. Evaluation and Judging

All submitted essays will be evaluated by the Knowva team and Ivy League college admissions experts. Top 10 winners will get feedback and their essays edited by admissions counselors. The first-prize winner will receive a \$1,000 (USD) scholarship to a college of their choice. The second-prize winner will receive a \$500 (USD) scholarship to a college of their choice. Each essay will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Grammar, punctuation, and spelling (20)
- Content and ideas (20)
- Use of language and style (30)
- Organization (20)
- Proper source citation and use of evidence where required (10)

Knowva reserves the right to disqualify any entrant from the contest if, in Knowva's sole discretion, it reasonably believes that the entrant has attempted to undermine the legitimate operation of the contest by cheating, deception, or other unfair playing practices or abuses, threatens or harasses any other entrants, Knowva, or the Judges.

Essays will have a coded identification system to remove any bias or student identification for readers.

5. Awards and Prizes

Sponsor will notify the potential winners by using the email address provided in the submission entry. If they can't or won't provide contact details, the award will be given to the next appropriate participant. If a potential winner is unreachable by email during a period of seven days, the potential winner may be disqualified, and/or Sponsor may elect not to award the applicable prize, as Sponsor may determine at its discretion.

The two eligible first- and second-place winners will receive scholarship funds in the form of cash or Knowva course credit.

Winners will be announced on the Sponsors' [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), [Tik Tok](#) accounts after the email announcement, this site as well as on the Knowva Academy blog. Top 10 winners will receive feedback and their essays edited by admissions counselors.

All income taxes and any other applicable taxes on each contest prize is the sole responsibility of the recipient. An IRS Form 1099 will be issued, if required by law. The contest prizes consist only of prizes expressly specified herein. Each winner is subject to and shall abide by the income reporting and, if applicable, the payment of any taxes due, per the laws, rules and regulations of the winner's/winners' state of residence. Any costs or expenses associated with the acceptance or use of any prize are the responsibility of the recipient. No substitution or transfer of right to receive any contest prize will be allowed, except at the sole discretion of Sponsor. Sponsor also reserves the right at its sole discretion to substitute an alternate prize. If any winner is prevented from accepting any cash prize in his/her jurisdiction of residence, then, at the option of Sponsor, Sponsor reserves the right to substitute an alternate prize in its sole discretion. The prizes are not transferable, assignable or redeemable for cash except in Sponsor's sole discretion. The potential winner and finalists, and if the winner/finalist is a minor, their parents or legal guardians, are responsible for ensuring that they comply with all the applicable tax laws and filing requirements.

6. Sponsor

The contest is sponsored by Knowva Academy, an educational institution in Boston, and has hired a third-party administrator Interdependence Public Relations to help facilitate and publicize this contest. Interdependence Public Relations is an independent, third-party organization retained by Knowva to assist with the administration of this contest.

During the contest period, the sponsor, its agents and/or the judges (defined above) will be evaluating the essays and supporting statements to ensure that they meet the requirements. The sponsor reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify any entrant who submits an essay and supporting statements that do not meet the requirements. Incomplete entries or entries not complying with these rules are subject to disqualification.

7. Publicity

By entering the contest, entrants agree to participate in any media or promotional activity resulting from the contest as reasonably requested by Interdependence Public Relations at Knowva's expense and agree and consent to use of their name and/or likeness. Knowva will contact entrants in advance of any Knowva-sponsored media request for interviews.

The essays may also be used for press and media purposes and entrant agrees to waive any rights and not assert any intellectual property rights that entrant has or may have in the essay. Knowva reserves the right to publish the name and likeness of the entrants with the top 10 scores, the finalists and the winner on the contest site or through other media for publicity purposes.

8. Warranty and Indemnity

Entrants warrant that their essays are their own original work and, as such, they are the sole and exclusive owner and rights holder of the submitted essay and that they have the right to submit the writing in the contest. Knowva Academy, the judges and Interdependence Public Relations accepts no responsibility for submissions lost, delayed, damaged, defaced, mislaid, wrongdoing, or false claim howsoever caused. Proof of mailing does not constitute proof of entry. All entries will be deemed made by the entrant submitted at the time of entry.

To the maximum extent permitted by law, entrant indemnifies and agrees to keep indemnified Sponsor at all times from and against any liability, claims, demands, losses, damages, costs and expenses resulting from any act, default or omission of the entrant and/or a breach of any warranty set forth herein. To the maximum extent permitted by law, entrant agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless Sponsor from and against any and all claims, actions, suits or proceedings, as well as any and all losses, liabilities, damages, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys fees) arising out of or accruing from: (i) any misrepresentation made by entrant in connection with the contest; (ii) any non-compliance by entrant with these rules; (iii) claims brought by persons or entities other than the parties to these rules arising from or related to entrant's involvement with the Contest; (iv) acceptance, possession, misuse or use of any prize or participation in any Contest-related activity or participation in the Contest; (v) any malfunction or other problem with the Contest Site in relation to the entry and participation in the Contest by entrant; (vi) any error in the collection, processing, or retention of entry or judging process in relation to the entry and participation in the Contest by entrant; or (vii) any typographical or other error in the printing, offering or announcement of any prize or winners in relation to the entry and participation in the Contest by entrant.