



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
2014 Award For Outstanding Achievement In Citizenship
Student Nomination – Essay Instructions
Deadline: February 6, 2015. Late or incomplete submissions will not be accepted.

STUDENT ESSAY INFORMATION

PART 5 – Student Essay (to be completed by the student)
(20 points maximum)

Be sure to include your name and e-mail address on your essay.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Read the following instructions and complete your essay electronically via a word processing program (e.g. MS Word). Your essay should come as an attachment in the same e-mail as the nomination application.

In this portion of your application, you are to write an essay related to the topic of effective, quality citizenship.

Your essay should address these questions:

1. How do you define “effective, quality citizenship?” What are the most important attributes of such citizenship?
2. Identify one person from times past or from the present who provides a concrete example of effective, quality citizenship as you defined the term? Explain something he or she did that illustrates such citizenship.
3. What is an example of one thing you have done that illustrates effective, quality citizenship as you defined the term?
4. Why is it important for society at the local, state, or national level to have citizens who can live up to the ideal of effective, quality citizenship as you defined the term?

Special directions in answering the above questions:

1. The essay must be organized following the sequence of the questions as presented above.
2. The essay should be responsive to the above questions without straying from what they ask.
3. The essay should incorporate ideas from at least five sources. At least, three of those sources must be published sources, and up to two of those sources may be people with whom you discuss the topic of this essay. All sources used must be properly identified in endnotes using any consistent format.
4. The entire essay – not counting endnotes and bibliography – must be confined to no more than five double-spaced typewritten or computer-printed pages of easy-to-read type. That is, avoid type that has a very small font.
5. You must do all the writing in this essay independently, i.e., the drafting, revising, and final editing.

Scoring criteria:

The essay will be scored using these – and only these – criteria:

1. Ideas should be communicated clearly and convincingly to readers using concrete examples.
2. The essay should be interesting to readers, holding their attention.
3. The essay should be coherent.
4. The ideas presented in the essay should be accurate.
5. The essay must follow the “Special Directions” noted above.
6. The essay must use standard English grammar, spelling, and style conventions...