



**Texas Lions MD-2 Opportunities for Youth
“OUTSTANDING YOUTH AWARD”
Contest Rules
2016-2017**



1. Contest Rules

- a. Contestants shall be evaluated on a 750 to 1000 word essay, their biographical information statement, community service, experience/participation leadership information, three letters of recommendation, their high school grade point average and a personal interview.
- b. The following criteria shall be used for judging the contestant:
 - i. Fifteen percent (15%) – 750 to 1000 word essay – “What I Can Do to Promote Americanism and Love of Country” – tell why you feel it is important for young people to promote Americanism and Love of Country and how you can do so.
 - ii. Five percent (5%) – Grade point average from school transcript.
 - iii. Fifteen percent (15%) – Three letters of recommendation
 - iv. Thirty-five percent (35%) – biographical information statement, community service, leadership experience/participation information.
 - v. Thirty percent (30%) – Personal interview
- c. Judges shall be persons who are knowledgeable about community service and high school level leadership.
- d. All MD-2 contests shall be conducted in the English language and Contestants, during contest presentations, shall speak English.
- e. The contest area must have good acoustics, be free from outside noises and disturbances, and have controlled access.
- f. Order of appearance before the judging panel will be determined in advance at the direction of the State OFY Chair.
- g. Contestants shall remain outside the contest area until invited to enter by the Contest Official.
- h. The audience will be informed before the first contestant to not applaud at the end of the interview and reminded before each contestant interview of the same requirement.
- i. 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.
- j. Contestants will not give any self-introduction but shall state their name and the interview shall proceed.

- k. No one will be allowed to either enter or leave the contest area during the constant's interview process.
- l. The winners will be announced during the Texas Lions MD-2 Youth Luncheon at noon.
- m. The 1st place winner will present his/her acceptance speech at that time.

2. Awards

- a. The 1st place winner will win a \$3,000.00 scholarship.
- b. The 2nd place winner will win a \$1,000.00 scholarship.
- c. To collect the scholarship award, the Contestant must complete the following process:
 - i. Contestant winner or runner-up must complete the Scholarship Request Form along with proof of registration information from a university, college, junior college or vocational school.
 - ii. The information should be sent to the state office along with any supplemental information needed by the institution (i.e. scholarship forms, etc). Send request for payment to:

Texas Lions MD-2 State Office
P.O. Box 294509
Kerrville, TX 78029-4509
Phone: 830-257-6557
email: lionsstateoffice@md2TXlions.org

3. Payment will be made directly to the designated school.
4. The scholarship awards must be collected no later than two years following the recipient's graduation from High School.
5. 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 document, 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 sponsorship 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.

6. Responsibilities of Contestant

- a. Each Contestant shall be required to submit the following to their sponsoring Lions Club and/or District.
 - i. **State Contest Application (mandatory to be completed online and copied; no handwritten applications will be accepted).**
 - ii. **Two (2) high quality wallet/passport photographs (such as current school picture) that are of the head-and-shoulders, glossy and in color.**
 - iii. **Signed Copy of the Code of Conduct and Chaperone Guidelines**
 - iv. **Medical Power of Attorney designating his/her Chaperone as the Primary Responsible Party and the State Contest Chair as the Secondary Responsible Party.**
 - v. **Four (4) typed double spaced copies of your 750 to 1000 word essay – “What I Can Do to Promote Americanism and Love of Country”**
 - vi. **Four (4) typed copies of biographical information statement, community service, leadership experience/participation experience**
 - vii. **Four (4) copies of the three (3) letters of recommendation**
 - viii. **One (1) certified high school transcript, plus three (3) copies.**
- b. Attend the Lions MD-2 Texas State Convention in San Antonio, Texas on May 19-20, 2017.
- c. Contestants are required to attend an orientation held the evening of May 19, 2017 at a time set forth by the State Chair.
 - i. Exemption of this requirement may be granted prior to the meeting by their State Contest Coordinator or the State Contest Chair.
 - ii. Contestants will visit the presentation area and ask any questions they may still have about the contest.
- d. 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 year’s contest.

7. Responsibilities of the Sponsoring District

- a. An entry fee of \$250 to be attached to each participant's application. Check to be made payable to **Texas State Convention Fund**.
 - b. The sponsoring district must make sure all documents listed above (Items 6 (a)(i-viii) are completed, have all required signatures and are sent to the Outstanding Youth State Coordinator. **The deadline to postmark all applications will be Monday, April 24, 2017 for all Districts, except those whose contest date is held the following weekend. For those Districts the postmark date must be by Monday, May 1, 2017 and must be sent by overnight mail. The applications must be received no later than Wednesday, May 3, 2017 to be eligible.**
 - c. Complete Sponsorship District Responsibility List and attach to contestant's application/contest package. **This is mandatory.**
8. Chaperone/Sponsoring Club and or District Responsibilities
- a. All contestants shall be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or designated chaperone from their sponsoring club or District to the convention.
 - b. The Texas Lions MD-2 State Convention will be responsible for providing 3 meals and one night's 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.
 - d. Comply with requirements as set forth in the Texas Lions MD-2 Opportunities for Youth contest Chaperone Guidelines.
9. Contest Coordinator Contact Information

Lion Deborah King
110 Villa Way
Coldspring, TX 77331
(409) 504-9221 (cell)
debbieking624@gmail.com

Texas Lions MD-2 State Competition will be held in San Antonio, Texas on May 19-20, 2017.