



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION FOR BILINGUAL EDUCATION

New York University
Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools
726 Broadway, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10003
Tel: 212-998-5104 Fax: 212-995-4199



ESSAY CONTEST FOR ELLs/ MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS
ESSAY CONTEST APPLICATION

CONTEST APPLICATION 2021 – 2022

Submission requirements: Mail the application and the essay **by February 18, 2022.**

Student's First Name: _____

Last Name(s): _____

Grade Level: _____

Language(s) Other than English: _____

Essay Title: _____

Home Address: _____

City _____ Zip _____

Mobil #: _____ E-mail: _____

School's Name: _____

School's Address: _____

City _____ Zip _____

School's Telephone #: _____

Contact Person's Name & E-mail:

Teacher's Name and E-mail:

Principal's Name and E-mail:

Superintendent's Name and E-mail:

MAILING OF SUBMISSIONS:

- **WORD COUNT TOTAL** _____
- Artwork must be mailed via First Class Mail through the United States Postal Service no later than **February 18, 2022**, to:

Dr. Jordan González
Long Island RBERN
Eastern Suffolk BOCES
379 Locust Avenue
Oakdale, NY 11769

Faxes and certified or registered mail submissions will not be accepted

STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST

The New York State Association for Bilingual Education (NYSABE) is proud to announce the **2022 Statewide Essay Contest** for ELLs/multilingual learners in grades 3-12. All entries must be submitted by US Mail by **February 18, 2022**.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: The contest is limited to ELL/multilingual learners currently enrolled in bilingual and ENL programs in New York State. **Participants must write in English and another language.**

ESSAY PROMPT FOR GRADES 3-8:

Speaking, reading and writing in two or more languages are important for our future. Write an essay about being bilingual and biliterate. **Please address the following questions:**

- What does being bilingual and biliterate mean to you today and in the future?
- How does being bilingual and biliterate benefit your community?
- How does being bilingual and biliterate benefit our world?

ESSAY PROMPT FOR GRADES 9-12:

In the 21st century, being able to effectively communicate in two or more languages is essential to being successful. Write an essay about the importance of being biliterate. **Please address the following questions:**

- Why is being biliterate a valuable asset to our society?
- What are the advantages of being biliterate for you personally?
- How will these skills open new doors and provide opportunities for you as a member of our global society?

ESSAY CRITERIA:

- Essay must address the prompt to be eligible for consideration.
- The student’s name MUST NOT appear on the essay.
- Teachers should assist students to ensure that essay submissions meet the following criteria:
 - A. Development of the theme: Originality and creativity
 - B. Content and clarity of expression: Standard grammar and mechanics
- Entries may be submitted in the student’s preferred language with a brief summary in the other language. Either the essay or the summary must be in English. Through the essay and summary, students will demonstrate their bilingualism and biliteracy practices.
- The essays must be within the following word limits:

Elementary Grades 3 – 5:	200 – 250 words
Intermediate Grades 6 – 8:	250 – 350 words
High School Grades 9 – 12:	350 – 500 words
- Record the word count total at the end of the essay and on the submission form.
- The essay should be typed and double-spaced; handwritten submission must be legible, in ink and doubled spaced.
- Only work done by an individual student will be accepted. No group entries will be considered.

PRIZES/ AWARDS: Winning entries may be published in NYSABE's **The Bilingual Times** Newsletter. There will be first, second, and third place winners at each of the grade clusters: 3 – 5, 6 – 8, and 9 – 12.

1st PLACE WINNER: medal and gift of \$150.00

2nd PLACE WINNER: medal and gift of \$100.00

3rd PLACE WINNER: medal and a gift of \$50.00

Winners will be notified by **March 12, 2022**. The awards will be presented on **Tuesday, April 5, 2022**, at the **NYSABE 44th Annual Conference** which will be held virtually. **Winners must be present at NYSABE's virtual conference on Tuesday, April 5, 2022. Winners, teachers and their parents will be provided with a zoom link to join the conference. Students are expected to read their essay.**

Teachers should ensure that a student's submission reflect their best efforts and biliteracy practices.

JUDGING: Once the submissions are received, a committee of judges, selected by the Committee Chairperson, will rate the entries based on a rubric. This committee will determine 1st – 3rd place winners in each grade cluster. The committee's decisions are final.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Submissions must be postmarked by **February 18, 2022**

Winners will be notified by **March 12, 2022**

Winners must be present at NYSABE's virtual conference on Tuesday, April 5, 2022. Winners and their parents will be provided with a zoom link. Students are expected to read their essay.

SUBMISSIONS: Essays must be submitted via First Class Mail through the United States Postal Service and sent to:

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Long Island RBERN
Eastern Suffolk BOCES
379 Locust Avenue
Oakdale, NY 11769

For further information please contact Dr. Jordan González at jordangonzaleznysabe@gmail.com.