

WILLIAM SIMPSON ESSAY SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

P.O. Box 446

Park Forest, IL 60466

Telephone: (708) 747-6542



**SCHOLARSHIP RULES AND CRITERIA**

1. Contestants must be an African American Junior or Senior in High School attending one of the twelve designated far South Suburban High Schools, namely: Marian Catholic, Rich South, East, Central, Homewood-Flossmoor, Thornton, Thornridge, Bloom, Crete Monee, and South Suburban Charter Schools. **An Essay Application must be completed and signed by student.**
2. Essays are required to be Original and must have been written no later than 6 months from the due date.
3. Contestants must submit one (1) original signed on last page by applicant with three (3) copies of the original on or before the deadline of **April 29, 2017**.
4. The top of each page must include the **contestant's name, title of the essay, date written and page number**. A cover page should precede the first page of text and all pages thereafter must be numbered.
5. The essay must consist of a **minimum of (8) eight pages**, and a **maximum of (12) twelve pages, double spaced**. A Bibliography or a List of Sources page is required and does not count toward the minimum page requirement.
6. Contestants must be prepared to answer questions asked by one or more judges.
7. Essays and an application must be submitted on or before **Saturday, April 29, 2017** and if mailed, **postmarked** no later than **that date** and mailed to:

WSESF  
Essay Competition  
P.O. Box 446  
Park Forest, IL 60466

**Essays are judged by the following criteria:**

1. Creativity and literary expression of subject matter
2. Grammar usage, spelling, and overall organization
3. Degree of complexity of topic and contestant's knowledge of subject matter
4. Credibility of cited resources and research materials
5. Quantity of supporting documentation found in the body of the Text, Footnotes & Bibliography

An essay is an analytic or interpretative literary composition usually dealing with its subject from a limited or personal point of view.

An original essay is the written expression of its author's opinion. At best, an essay blends facts with imagination, knowledge, and emotions, never giving itself wholly to one or the other. The essay's purpose is always the same: *to express an opinion about a specific subject*. Therefore, the writer should feel strongly about the topic; one that he or she has experienced, witnessed, or has a serious opinion or interest in the subject.