

2016 WECA Youth Leadership Congress

ESSAY CONTEST RULES

All students participating in the 2016 Youth Leadership Congress are eligible and strongly encouraged to enter the WECA ESSAY CONTEST. Scholarships are awarded as follows to the authors of the top three essays:

1st place – \$1,000
2nd place – \$500
3rd place – \$250

Scholarships are paid to winning students upon presentation of proof of registration at any accredited college, university, or technical school in any state.

CONTEST RULES

1. The subject of the essay is "**Cooperative Principles in Action.**" Students will choose just one of the Seven Cooperative Principles and elaborate on how cooperatives put the particular principle of their choosing into action.
 2. Essays should be based on information presented at the WECA Youth Leadership Congress. Students are encouraged to use personal experiences to demonstrate their understanding of the value of cooperative business in their lives. Visiting a local cooperative and conducting a personal interview is a great way to gather valuable firsthand information.
 3. Knowledge of the subject, originality, grammar, spelling, and neatness will be factors used in judging essays.
 4. A panel of three judges will judge essays. Only essays postmarked by the due date will be eligible to win.
 5. Essays must be a minimum of 600 words and not more than 1,200 words (approximately 2 to 4 typewritten pages).
 6. Essays must be typed, double-spaced, and on white letter-sized paper. Essays will be copied for distribution to the judges, so please be sure your essay will copy clearly.
 7. Students may win a WECA essay scholarship only once. If a student is awarded a scholarship the first year they enter, he or she may not enter the contest again.
 8. **DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME ON THE ESSAY.** Be sure to use an Essay Contest form.
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Essays must be mailed to:

WECA Essay Contest
WECA
1 S. Pinckney St., Suite 810
Madison, WI 53703

ESSAYS MUST BE POSTMARKED

NO LATER THAN August 26, 2016

**2016 WECA YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONGRESS
ESSAY CONTEST ENTRY FORM**

NAME: _____

Please do NOT put your name on the essay. Put your name on this form ONLY

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

PARENT / GUARDIAN NAMES: _____

SPONSORING COOPERATIVE: _____

HIGH SCHOOL: _____

YEAR IN SCHOOL (As of September 1, 2016): _____

BIRTHDATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Mail this form, along with your essay, to:

**WECA Essay Contest
WECA
1 S. Pinckney St. Suite 810
Madison, WI 53703**

Essays must be postmarked no later than August 26, 2016