



Essay Contest Rules

Senior Essay Contest – Grades 10 – 12

Junior Essay Contest – Grades 7 – 9

1. Address the question – *Why are you pro-life?* - in an essay 300-500 words in length.
2. To enter the contest, follow the instructions under **How to Enter** on the Essay Contest page on the LifeFirst website.
3. Participant must be a resident of Texas.
4. Follow this protocol for your essay:
 - a. Essay is double spaced
 - b. Pages are numbered
 - c. Font is Times New Roman, 12 pt.
 - d. Title is centered at top of the first page
 - e. Author's name is not shown on the essay
5. By submitting an entry, the contestant and parent agree:
 - a. to allow LifeFirst to reprint the essay;
 - b. that the essay is original, but not copyrighted; and
 - c. that the essay has not been submitted to any other LifeFirst contest.
6. Sources used for the essay must be cited.
7. Essays will be judged on originality, content, and accuracy. Your essay should be focused on speaking to people who are **not** pro-life. Please be mindful of your word choice. We want to communicate the truth that abortion, euthanasia, infanticide, and embryonic stem cell research are unequivocally wrong and take innocent lives, but

we want to do so in a manner that will build bridges of communication. For example, using terms such as “baby killers” can often erect barriers rather than facilitate discussion and change. Please strive to communicate the truth but with grace and love.

8. Awards:

Junior High (grades 7-9)

1st place winner - \$200

2nd place winner - \$150

3rd place winner - \$100

Senior High (grades 10-12)

1st place winner - \$300

2nd place winner - \$250

3rd place winner - \$200

9. Please email any questions to essaycontest@lifefirst.org.

10. Essays can also be submitted to the contest held by National Right to Life for further opportunities to compete. <https://www.nrlc.org/students/essaycontest/>