



Welcome to the Young Patriot Challenge Constitution Week Essay contest, a district wide contest open to all Merced County Seventh and Eighth grade students.

To compete, the contest invites 7-8th grade entrants (including home schooled students) to celebrate Constitution Day (September 17) by writing an essay about this year's Constitution related theme. **The First place winner will be asked to read his or her essay at the Award Ceremony.** Please consider your attire.



Winners will be honored at the **Young Patriot Challenge** Award Ceremony to be held on October 23, 2019.

Essay contest theme for this year: Should the Constitution be amended to include term limits for members of the U. S. Congress? Explain your opinion.

Essay Contest General Rules:

- Merced County students Grades 7-8 are eligible for the Essay contest.
- Minimum length is one 8.5" x 11" page. Type size and line spacing are optional but attention should focus on presentation, legibility, and content. Maximum length is three pages.
- Essays with names on the front or essays containing artwork or other decoration will not be allowed.
- Essay Submission form must be attached to the back of the essay. Essays without a submission form will not be accepted.

The Essays will be judged according to the following criteria:

- Attention to theme
- Originality
- Spelling, grammar, and punctuation
- Adherence to contest rules

Collection of Essays

Put all collected Essays with waiver form attached into a manila envelope. Entries should be sent to YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE for Inter-District mail. The front of the envelope should include school and teacher name and be addressed to the Young Patriot Challenge, MCOE Complex Bldg J-1 and **arrive no later than September 20, 2019**

Essay return policy

Essays submitted to YPC become the property of YPC and will not be returned.

Awards

Student winners will receive awards consisting of a medal with ribbon, a certificate and a gift card and will be honored along with their parents at a special Award Ceremony to be held on October 23, 2019