



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY • DEPARTMENT OF NORTH DAKOTA  
Americanism Program - Chairman Shauna Dubuque  
Phone: 701.491.8776 Email: americanism@ndala.org

## Americanism Essay Contest

The Americanism Essay Contest was created to teach students the value of patriotism and what it means to be Americans. Thousands of students participate in the program each year and help promote a lifelong respect of our flag and country. (Courtesy National Auxiliary Office)

Students in grades 3-12 are invited to participate in the contest. Home-school and special-needs students are also welcome to enter. Grade levels are divided into six classes. One award in each of the six classes will be presented by the Northwestern Division. Division winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 donation in their name to the Children of Warriors National Presidents Scholarship fund. Winners at the Department level will be announced at Department Convention, will receive a certificate, and will be submitted for consideration at the Division level.

Essay title: **“What does Freedom mean to me?”**

Class	Grade Level	Word Requirement
I	3 and 4	150-250
II	5 and 6	250-300
III	7 and 8	350-400
IV	9 and 10	450-500
V	11 and 12	450-500
VI	Students with special needs	Word count should correspond with student's grade level

Please include the following:

- Typed or neatly written essay conforming to the word requirement for class
- Completed essay cover sheet as first page of essay
- Completed information on cover sheet for Sponsor Unit Name/Number/Signature

Essay must be postmarked or in my email inbox **no later than March 15, 2024.**

Please mail (or scan and email) completed essay to:

Shauna Dubuque  
Department Americanism Chairman  
PO Box 0251  
Glyndon, MN 56547-0251  
americanism@ndala.org

**\*\*Units – please submit only the top winner from each class from your unit\*\***



**AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST  
2024 Cover Sheet**

COVER SHEET  
MUST BE  
Included with  
Essay

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into six classes. One award in each of the six classes will be presented in each division. Winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 donation in the student's name will be made to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship fund.

**Essay Title:** *“What does Freedom mean to me?”*

**Essay Classes:**

Class	Grade Level	Word Requirement
I	3 and 4	150-250
II	5 and 6	250-300
III	7 and 8	350-400
IV	9 and 10	450-500
V	11 and 12	450-500
VI	Students with special needs	Word count should correspond with student's grade level.

**Essay Checklist:**

- ☐ Class competing in \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Sponsoring ALA unit \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Typed or neatly written essay conforming to the word requirement for class
- ☐ Completed essay coversheet as first page of essay
- ☐ Word count of essay \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Due date for student to return to ALA unit March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

**To Be Completed by the Student/Parent:**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street, City, State, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name and Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Auxiliary Use Only (Must be completed for entry to be considered.):**

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Unit Americanism Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit winner due to Department on: March 15, 2024 Department: North Dakota

Signature of Department Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

*Department winner due to National Americanism Division Chairman by April 15, 2024*