



Maryland Department of the Environment Environmental Science Student Award Essay Guidelines

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY: MAY 1, 2015 – POSTMARKS NOT

ACCEPTED

Essay Guidelines:

Write an essay with a minimum of 200 words that details an environmental project in which you were the lead or the participant. The essay should include the following information: the environmental benefit of the project, the number of Marylanders served by the project, whether the project is a one-time occurrence or an ongoing practice (for continual improvement), and whether the applicant played a leadership role or participant role in the project. Examples and details should be explained and detailed in a sophisticated and/or creative manner.

Each essay should include the following: (refer to rubric)

Cover Page - Include student name, school name, month, and year. These should be centered vertically and horizontally on the page, and should NOT include a header or footer.

Introduction - Include an overview of the environmental project and introduces the topic

Content (body) - Include details and examples of the project and the following information: the environmental benefit of the project, the number of Marylanders served by the project, whether the project is a one-time occurrence or an ongoing practice (for continual improvement), and whether the applicant played a leadership role or participant role in the project.

Conclusion - This should summarize and tie up the ideas presented in the essay.

Each essay should use the following format guidelines:

- Header on each page (except the cover page) with the student name and name of school on the top right side
- Footer on each page (except the cover page) with the page number on the bottom center
- Double spaced
- Standard 8.5 x 11 paper
- One inch margins on all sides
- 12pt. Times New Roman font

How your essay will be scored:

Each essay will be scored out of a potential 28 points, based on the grading rubric. An additional two points will be awarded for playing a leadership role or demonstrating exemplary effort during the project. When all essays have been scored, the top scoring essays will be evaluated by committee to select the overall winners.