

## 2018 County Government Essay Contest



April is "National County Government Month" and **the County Commissioners' Association of WV (CCAWV)** is hosting our annual essay contest for 8th grade students across West Virginia.

**There will be a monetary prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place student winners.** There will also be a monetary prize for the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner's Teacher to be used for classroom activities. 1<sup>st</sup> Place Student will receive \$300 and teacher will receive \$300. 2<sup>nd</sup> place Student - \$250 and 3<sup>rd</sup> place Student - \$150.

One of CCAWV's goals is to increase information and public awareness about county government and the office of County Commissioner. As an initiative of this goal we are excited to partner with West Virginia educators to encourage students to learn and write about their local county governing body, **the County Commission**. (Teachers, for your convenience, we are attaching our brochure about county commission responsibilities.)

Student participants are asked to type a 500-word essay on the topic.

**"How does my county commission make life better for me?"**

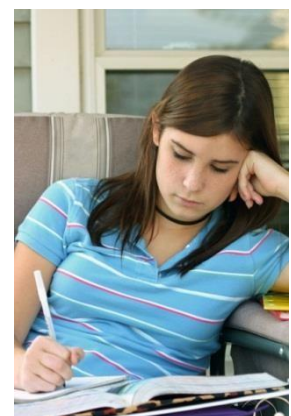
Take a class fieldtrip to a county commission meeting! Ask your county commissioners to come speak to the class! Find out what your county commission is working on in your county and encourage your students to write about it from the perspective of an 8<sup>th</sup> grader and why it matters to them.

A committee of commissioners and CCAWV Staff will serve as judges of the contest. All entries must be **emailed by 5:00 pm Friday, April 20, 2018 to qualify.** (Please see complete rules attached)

Entries should be emailed to: [jennifer@ccawv.org](mailto:jennifer@ccawv.org)

For more information, please contact Vivian Parsons at CCAWV [jennifer@ccawv.org](mailto:jennifer@ccawv.org) or at 304-345-4639.

**Winners will be announced by April 27, 2018.**



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## CCAWV County Government Essay Contest Rules 2018

1. The contest is open to all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who are enrolled in a West Virginia public or private school.
2. **The contest deadline is 5 p.m. on April 20, 2018 (see No. 8).**
3. Each essay is limited to a maximum of 500 words and a minimum of 400 words and must address the following question: “How does my county commission make life better for me?” *The essay must address specifically the county commission of the county in which the student resides.*
4. Each student is limited to one entry.
5. Each teacher must completely fill out an official application form (attached). Please submit each entry individually as a Word or PDF document with a copy of the application form attached.
6. All entries must contain the student’s name, email address, and the county name in which the essay is about.
7. All entries must be submitted in Microsoft Word or PDF format and **must be submitted by the student’s teacher.**
8. All entries must be emailed to [jennifer@ccawv.org](mailto:jennifer@ccawv.org) prior to 5 p.m. on April 20, 2018.
9. **The winning essays will be announced by April 27, 2018.**
10. The 1<sup>st</sup> place student will receive \$300, and the teacher who submitted the 1<sup>st</sup> place essay will receive \$300 to be used for classroom activities
11. The 2<sup>nd</sup> place student will receive \$250 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> place student will receive \$150.
12. The winning students and his/her teachers will be invited to a County Commissioners meeting in their home county to receive their awards.
13. The 1<sup>st</sup> place winning essay will be published in **Commissioners’ Corner**, CCAWV’s official publication, and posted on the CCAWV website, ([www.ccawv.org](http://www.ccawv.org)).
14. Essays will be judged on the following criteria: understanding of the role of county commission; grammar and spelling; clarity and organization of thought.
15. By entering the contest, each student and teacher agrees to allow his/her name to be used in a news release announcing the contest winner in the event that their essay is selected as a winning essay. In addition, they agree to allow their photograph to be published in the Commissioners’ Corner and on the CCAWV Web site.
16. Entries will not be returned.

Official Application Form

**CCAWV 2018 County Government Essay Contest**

**County**\_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher's Name:**\_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher's Email Address:**\_\_\_\_\_

**Name of School:**\_\_\_\_\_

**School Telephone #:**\_\_\_\_\_

**School Mailing Address:**\_\_\_\_\_

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**Submitting Student's Name:**\_\_\_\_\_

**Submitting Student's mailing address (if available):**

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**(Teachers must submit a copy of this completed form with each student entry.)**