



ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES  
SECRETARY OF STATE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SUITE 152, STATE CAPITOL  
700 CAPITAL AVENUE  
FRANKFORT, KY 40601-3493  
(502) 564-3490  
FAX: (502) 564-5687  
WEBSITE: WWW.SOS.KY.GOV

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kentucky Educators  
FROM: *Alison Lundergan Grimes*  
SUBJECT: 2014-2015 26th Annual Essay and Slogan Contest  
DATE: September 10, 2014

For the past 26 years, the Office of the Secretary of State has held a statewide Essay and Slogan Contest for Kentucky students. The discourse this contest stimulates among students is all the more important in light of waning voter participation in the youngest demographics. The contest is an excellent way to garner recognition for your students, and it helps them become involved and familiar with government and democracy.

Students in grades 6-8 are invited to participate in the voter slogan contest, and students in grades 9-12 are encouraged to take part in the essay portion of the contest. I encourage you to distribute the web address listed below and use this project in your classes or with individual students to generate cross-curriculum writing ideas.

Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third places in the slogan contest. In the essay contest, a first-place prize will be awarded for each high school grade level. The monetary awards for contest winners are made possible by contributions from KEA and KEA Retired, the University of Kentucky Scripps Howard First Amendment Center, the Kentucky Department of Education, and Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. The University of Kentucky Scripps Howard First Amendment Center also will judge the essay portion of the contest. I am grateful to our partners for their generous sponsorships of this program.

 	 <small>Kentucky Education Association Retired</small>	 <a href="http://www.KEA.org">www.KEA.org</a>	 <small>KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</small>
<p><b>SLOGAN CONTEST (Grades 6-8)</b>  1<sup>st</sup> Prize: \$1000 Cash  2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: \$600 Cash  3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: \$400 Cash</p>		<p><b>ESSAY CONTEST (Grades 9-12)</b>  9<sup>th</sup> Grade: \$1000 Cash  10<sup>th</sup> Grade: \$1000 Cash  11<sup>th</sup> Grade: \$1000 Cash  12<sup>th</sup> Grade: \$1000 Cash</p>	

The Essay Contest prompt, rules, rubric, and entry form are attached to this Memorandum. Please visit [www.sos.ky.gov/contests](http://www.sos.ky.gov/contests) for further information and guidelines for the 2014-2015 Essay and Slogan Contest. All guidelines must be met for any entry to be considered by contest judges, and all entries must be electronically submitted by 5 p.m. (EST) December 12, 2014, or postmarked by that date. I hope you will share this information with any faculty you feel may benefit from it.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Bradford Queen in my office at [bradford.queen@ky.gov](mailto:bradford.queen@ky.gov) or 502-782-7403. Thank you, and good luck to all of your students!



**Slogan Contest Rules and Prompt**  
**26<sup>th</sup> Annual Slogan and Essay Contest**  
**Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes**

1. The slogan contest is open to all Kentucky students in grades 6-8.
2. Slogan entry is limited to one per student.
3. Students must submit their slogans on the enclosed entry form. All sections of the entry form must be completed.
4. Students may submit their slogans online at [www.sos.ky.gov/contests](http://www.sos.ky.gov/contests) or by mail to the address below.
5. All entries must be submitted electronically by 5 p.m. (EST) Friday, December 12, 2014, or postmarked by that date..
6. Entries become the property of the Kentucky Secretary of State's Office and may be used for other purposes with credit to the author. Winning entries will be posted on the Secretary of State's website and may be used for other civic-related material.
7. All guidelines must be met for any entry to be considered by contest judges.

**Slogan Prompt: Write a slogan that addresses the importance of voting, voter registration, and/or elections in Kentucky.**

For judging purposes, the slogan must be an attention-getting word or phrase that expresses the importance of eligible Kentuckians participating in local, state, and national elections by registering and going to the polls, or the democratic freedom of participating in elections.

Mail entries to:           ATTN: Slogan and Essay Contest  
                                  Office of the Secretary of State  
                                  Suite 152, State Capitol  
                                  700 Capital Avenue  
                                  Frankfort, KY 40601

Entries may also be submitted online at [www.sos.ky.gov/contests](http://www.sos.ky.gov/contests).

Note: Family members of employees of the Office of the Secretary of State or the State Board of Elections are not eligible to enter the Slogan Contest.



**26<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ESSAY AND SLOGAN CONTEST  
SECRETARY OF STATE ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES**

**SLOGAN CONTEST ENTRY FORM**

Submit this form with your entry. All sections must be completed. If you choose to submit your slogan online at [www.sos.ky.gov/contests](http://www.sos.ky.gov/contests), you do not need to mail in your entry form.

_____ Name	_____ School
_____ Home Address	_____ School Address
_____ City, State & Zip	_____ City, State & Zip
_____ Home Phone Number	_____ School Phone Number
_____ Grade	_____ Principal
_____ Student Signature	_____ Sponsoring School Official Signature
_____ Date	_____ Date

Write or type your slogan here (if you need additional space, please continue on the back of this page):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**All entries must be electronically submitted by 5 p.m. (EST) December 12, 2014, or postmarked by that date.**

A special thanks to KEA and KEA Retired, the University of Kentucky Scripps Howard First Amendment Center, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, and the Kentucky Department of Education for sponsoring this contest.