



YOUTH CONTEST SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES 2026

sponsored by: Conroe Noon Lions Club

DIABETIC AWARENESS ESSAY

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**OUTSTANDING YOUTH**

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DRUG AWARENESS ESSAY

\$18,000 TOTAL



APPLY TODAY!

APPLICATION ATTACHED - DEADLINES OCTOBER 2026 THRU JANUARY 2027



Conroe Noon Lions Club

Youth Scholarship Contests



Drug Awareness Speech

Diabetes Awareness Essay

Outstanding Youth

Each fall the Conroe Noon Lions Club offers 3-Youth Contest to award scholarship funds to senior students in the immediate area. Seniors at Conroe and Washington High Schools and seniors of selected accredited private/parochial schools or homeschool students associated with a homeschool cooperative. These contests are Diabetes Awareness Essay, Outstanding Youth and Drug Awareness Speech; which are a part of the statewide Lions Opportunities for Youth program. In each contest the Conroe Noon Lions awards the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place contestants with a \$1,500 scholarship. The 1st place contestant has the first opportunity to represent the club at the Lions District 2-S2 Contest and will receive an additional \$1,500 scholarship provided they represent the club at the Lions District Contest in January, 2027. If the 1st place contestant is unable to attend the District Contest, then the 2nd place contestant will have the opportunity to attend and will receive the additional scholarship money. The same applies to the 3rd place contestant if 1st and 2nd place cannot represent the club. The winner of the Lions District 2-S2 Contest is then eligible to compete at the Lions State Contest in May, 2027.

There is specific information and rules for each contest listed on the back of the application form with deadline dates. One application maybe used for multiple contests with the appropriate contest(s) marked.

The following applies to ALL contests:

- A false statement on the application will disqualify the contestant.
- Contestant **MUST** be a regularly enrolled senior grade level student.
- The contests are open to students at Conroe High School, Washington High School, Covenant Christian School, Life Style Christian School, or homeschool students associated with a homeschool co-op in the immediate Conroe area.
- Conroe Leo Club members may qualify from other schools but can not apply for contests sponsored by other area Lions Clubs.
- The contests will be conducted in the English language and contestants shall speak the English language during contest.
- The decisions by judges from the Conroe Noon Lions Club is final.
- **ALL** applications **MUST** be received by the close of school on the deadline date. Applications can be delivered to the College & Career Centers at each school or the CNLC club office.
- Two (2) high quality wallet/passport size photographs (such as current school picture) that are of head-and-shoulder and in color, must be attached to application.
- **Drug Awareness Speech** - Contest application, and a typed copy of the speech.
- **Diabetes Awareness Essay** - Contest application, and a double spaced copy of essay.
- **Outstanding Youth** - Contest application, a 750-1000 word double spaced essay, three (3) original letters of recommendation, biographical information statement and an official high school transcript.



Conroe Noon Lions Club Youth Scholarship Contests



Drug Awareness Speech

Diabetes Awareness Essay

Outstanding Youth

Indicate the contest(s) for which you are applying.
Applications must be typed; NO handwritten applications will be accepted.

Contestant's Full Name:

Name you use:

Date of Birth:

Gender:

Mailing Address:

City, State, Zip:

E-Mail Address:

Cell Phone:

Parent(s) or Guardian(s) Name(s):

Parent E-Mail Address:

Parent contact phone:

Current School:

School Counselor:

School Counselor E-Mail Address:

College/University/Institution you plan to attend:

Your preferred Major and/or Minor:

We certify that statements in this application package are true and correct. I agree to comply with the contest rules. We have read the rules and will accept the decision of the judges as final. We consent that all materials, creations, concepts, likeness, designs, posters, ideas and intellectual rights and property used mentioned, spoken and written for, or in connection with, this contest are the property of the Conroe Noon Lions Club and the Lions International District 2-S2. We understand that to compete at the District or State Contests, some travel and incidental expenses may be incurred.

Applicant Signature:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

NOTE: Incomplete application packages will be disqualified.
For questions or additional information contact the Conroe Noon Lions Club
936-760-1666 or email: cnlc@conroenoonlions.org



Conroe Noon Lions Club

Youth Scholarship Contests



There are specific instructions, rules and guidelines for each of the three youth scholarship contests. Additionally each contest has its own application deadline and requirements. Please carefully read the following details for each contest.

Diabetic Awareness Essay - The application deadline is Friday, Oct. 23, 2026. Preliminary judging will be the week of **Oct. 26-30, 2026**. The finalists will recite their essays at the club meeting on **Wednesday, Nov. 4th**; this will be the final judging to select 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners.

The essay topic is - *"How Youth Can Advance Diabetes Awareness"*. Diabetes—one of the fastest-growing health challenges in the world—is one of Lions Clubs International's eight Global Causes. Raising awareness is essential to preventing the disease, supporting those living with diabetes, and promoting healthy lifestyles. Through service, education, and compassion, youth have a unique opportunity and the power to make a positive difference in our communities by improving lives and creating a healthier future.

The title of the Contestant's essay is not required to be the same as the subject for the essay. Contestants should be creative in the selection of an essay title and set the tone for their presentation with the title they choose. The essay should analyze the problem given in the subject and present a solution or solutions to the problem. The topic is broad and allows the contestant to considerable leeway in the selection of their solution or solutions. Each contestant shall personally research, write and present their contest essay. Pre-recorded presentations are not allowed for online contests. Research for this topic can be conducted by interviewing physicians, nurses, medical professionals, family members, community organizations, as well as information gathered from internet and library resources. The essay shall be a written article, to be read by the contestant, throughout the judging process. Creative, innovative, practical, and reasonable ideas are welcome.

The essay shall not exceed (1,500) words. All words in the essay are counted including articles, conjunctions, and pronouns. Provide word count on last page of essay. The essay must include a bibliography of alphabetized sources used in its composition. Note: the bibliography is not included in the word count. The essay should be double-spaced and typed in 12-point Times New Roman font.

Outstanding Youth - The application deadline is Friday, Nov. 06, 2026. Preliminary judging will be the week of **Nov. 9-13, 2026**. The finalists will recite their essay at the club meeting on **Wednesday, Nov. 18th**; where selection of 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners will awarded.

Contestants shall be evaluated on a 750-1,000 word essay, personal biographical information statement of community service, experience & participation in leadership, letters of recommendation, high school grade point average, and a personal interview.

The topic for the 750-1000 word essay is *"Can AI Technology Make Us More Human"*. Artificial intelligence is changing how we learn, communicate, work, and solve problems. Could AI strengthen the qualities that make us human—compassion, creativity, understanding, and service—or might over-reliance on it weaken human connection? Consider how AI can improve lives and communities, as well as concerns such as misinformation, privacy, unequal access, and the loss of independent thought

The contestants must also include an official high school transcript. Three (3) original letters of recommendation from unrelated adults. Each letter of recommendation may not be more than two pages in length, with a single page preferred. A biographical information statement, no more than two pages in length, one page preferred, and must not be less than 10-point typeface.

The preliminary judging for this contest will include a personal interview from a panel of judges. Please note the interview is NOT a beauty or fashion contest. Yet your mannerisms, personal hygiene, communication skills, and attire will ultimately be considered in this portion of the contest. The finalists contestants will present their essays at the club meeting, where the committee will present their selection of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners on Wednesday, Nov. 18th.

Drug Awareness Speech - The application deadline is January 6, 2027. Preliminary judging will take place **Jan, 6-8, 2027**. The finalists will present their speeches at the club meeting on Wednesday January 13, 2027; this will be the final judging to select 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners.

The speech topic is *"Social Media and Drug Exposure"*. "We Serve" is more than the Lions Clubs International motto—it is a commitment to building stronger, healthier, and safer communities. In today's digital world, social media has become a powerful influence on how young people learn, communicate, and make decisions. While it offers many opportunities, it can also expose youth to harmful content, including the promotion and normalization of drug use. Contestants should examine social media's impact and share ideas for how youth can make healthy choices and use digital platforms to promote drug-free lifestyles

The title of the contestant's speech is not required to be the same as the subject for the speech. Contestants should be creative in the selection of a speech title and set the tone for their presentation with the title they choose. The presentation should analyze the problem given in the subject and present a solution or solutions to the problem. Research for this topic can be conducted by interviewing school officials, teachers, judges, law enforcement personnel, probation personnel, counselors, juvenile court officials, legislators, medical personnel and by using the internet and the library. The topic is broad and allows the contestant considerable leeway in the selection of their solution or solutions. Sources of data and quotes should be identified by title, author and date published (year if known). Creative, innovative, practical, and reasonable ideas are welcome.

IMPORTANT - The speech **MUST** be from five (5) and seven (7) minutes in length. A speech less than five (5) minutes or more than seven and one-half (7 1/2) minutes in length will be disqualified. Notes, cue cards, or visual aids may NOT be used. Contestants will not give any self-introductions but give the title of their speech and deliver the speech from memory.