




6TH, 7TH, AND 8TH GRADERS:

# How can you make a difference in your community?


Start with an essay to the 2025 National Civics Bee® [nationalcivicsbee.org](https://nationalcivicsbee.org)

Students who participate in the National Civics Bee® strengthen their civics, writing, and public speaking skills, and form friendships with other young leaders along the way. Finalists who advance from local and state rounds to the National Championship compete for cash prizes, trophies, recognition, and a \$100,000 529 plan.


## How it Works


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**Write an essay proposing your ideas for improving your community.**

  - Use the [2025 Essay Guide](#) to find the prompt, judging rubric, and tips on how to prepare your 750-word (max) essay.
  - Read the Contest Rules.\*\* Public, private, charter, and homeschool students in grades 6–8 who are residents of participating states are eligible.
  - You’ll need consent from your parent or guardian to apply.
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**Submit your essay by February 4, 2025.**

  - The application opens in Fall 2024. Check [nationalcivicsbee.org](https://nationalcivicsbee.org) for the announcement.
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Top-scoring essay finalists are invited to compete at local and state bees happening in Spring–Summer 2025. The top winner from each state receives a trip to Washington, D.C., to compete in the National Championship in Fall 2025.
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To prep for local and state rounds, finalists receive a special study guide and complimentary access to Khanmigo, Khan Academy’s AI-powered online tutor.

## PRIZES

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP		STATE FINALS		LOCAL BEES	
1st Place	<b>\$100,000*</b> 529 plan	1st Place	<b>\$1,000*</b>	1st Place	<b>\$500*</b>
2nd Place	<b>\$25,000*</b>	2nd Place	<b>\$500*</b>	2nd Place	<b>\$250*</b>
3rd Place	<b>\$15,000*</b>	3rd Place	<b>\$250*</b>	3rd Place	<b>\$125*</b>

\*Amounts shown are the minimum to be awarded. Finalists should reference the Contest Rules for full prize information.

\*\*Full details on the entry procedure are described in the Contest Rules, which will be available on October 15, 2024 upon contest opening.

## Essay Prompt

To enter the 2025 National Civics Bee®, middle schoolers in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades must answer the following three questions:

01

Identify a specific problem, challenge, or opportunity in your community. What can you do to contribute to its improvement?  
*200 words minimum-250 words maximum*

02

What individuals or organizations would you work with to accomplish your solution? Examples include elected officials, business leaders, and nonprofits.  
*200 words minimum-250 words maximum*

03

How does your solution include Founding Principles and Civic Virtues?  
*200 words minimum-250 words maximum*

## About the Bee

The National Civics Bee® is an annual nonpartisan civics competition for middle schoolers that increases civics knowledge, skills, and disposition among young Americans, their families, and communities.

The competition is organized by The Civic Trust® of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, in partnership with local and state chambers of commerce across the country.



Download the [2025 Essay Guide](#) to access the full essay prompt, judging rubric, and support materials.



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