

Beta Sigma Chapter
Tennessee State Organization
of the
Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
2023-2024 Essay Contest

39th Annual Essay Contest:
High School: grades 9-12

Deadline: February 16, 2024

Purpose:

To encourage, to recognize, and to reward Tennessee high school students who demonstrate outstanding writing skills.

Eligibility:

All Tennessee high school students, public and private, in grades 9 –12 are eligible.

Guidelines for Submitting Essays:

- Each student may submit only one essay.
- Each essay must address the topic below and meet the formatting requirements on page 2.
- Essays and cover sheets (see page 4) should be emailed to Dr. Dorrie Powell (Powell.dorrie@gmail.com) no later than midnight on Friday, February 16, 2024.
- Members of Beta Sigma Chapter will select the top entries from each school to be forwarded to the state contest and award prize money to the top three entries from all submissions.

Topic:

Write an essay that expresses your opinion on the following question:

Artificial intelligence [A.I.] is beginning to have a tremendous impact on our world. In what ways will A.I. positively and negatively affect your daily life, now and in the future?

Be sure to:

- Address the question,
- Include your own personal experiences, but you are not limited to first-hand knowledge.
- Use an organizing structure appropriate to the purpose, audience, and content.

Format:

- Students will include both advantages and disadvantages of artificial intelligence [A.I.].
- They will effectively utilize argumentation strategies to develop an original essay while giving credit for borrowed information and facts from outside sources. Students should not rely on long quotations but use their own words instead. Informal citations are acceptable where short quotations or paraphrases of longer passages are used.
- Each essay must be 450 – 600 words in length.
- It must be typed, double-spaced, size 12 true type font, e.g., Arial, Times New Roman, Calibri, and **converted to a pdf**, including the separate cover page that has also been **converted to a pdf**.
- Student's name **can only appear** on the cover sheet.
- Essay Title needs to be a **header** for the essay page(s).
- See page 4 of this document for the format of the cover page.
- No images will be accepted.
- Formal writing rules apply. See TN ELA standard W.TTP.1.
- The state rubrics will be rigorously applied. Winning essays will be checked for plagiarism.

Please note:

- Each essay needs to be submitted in **two parts**:
 - The **cover sheet** formatted as outlined on page 4 of this document, and
 - The **essay**, with the title of the essay as the **ONLY** information appearing on the actual essay pages in a header with page numbers as needed.

Not following these formatting guidelines and this protocol will result in the entrant being disqualified.

Scoring:

Essays will be scored using the rubrics noted above. If you have any questions, please email Dr. Dorrie Powell at Powell.dorrie@gmail.com.

Chapter Prizes :

First Prize \$75.00

Second Prize \$50.00

Third Prize \$25.00

State Prizes:

First Prize \$350 – winner will be invited to attend the awards luncheon at the Tennessee State Convention

Second Prize \$250

Third Prize \$150

Deadlines and how to enter:

- The student will submit his/her essay, in **two parts** as described earlier, to one high school official (teacher, guidance counselor, instructional coach, etc.) who will then forward student entries to Dr. Powell **before February 16, 2024**.
- The student may also submit his/her essay and cover sheet directly to Dr. Powell by **February 16, 2024**.
- Dr. Powell, as contact person for the sponsoring DKG chapter (Beta Sigma), will forward the chapter contest winners to the state contest.

Confirmation:

The chapter contact person (Dr. Powell) will confirm submission of entries as they are received.

Disclaimer:

All submissions become the property of the Tennessee State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. Winning submissions, as the property of Xi State, may be published in the official publication of Tennessee State, *Tennessee State News*, on the Tennessee State website <https://www.tndkg.org/news> or by other electronic means. Additionally, winning submissions may be displayed at Tennessee State DKG events and used in Tennessee State DKG presentations.

Cover Sheet Format/ Information for Essay Entry

Must be typed

Essay Title

Student's Name:

Student's Mailing Address:

Student's Phone Number:

Student's Email Address:

Student's Grade Level: [9-12]

Student's School (name and address):

Student's School official contact person and email address:

Name of the sponsoring DKG chapter: **BETA SIGMA CHAPTER**

Name and Email Address of the contact person of the sponsoring DKG Chapter:

Dr. Dorrie Powell

Powell.dorrie@gmail.com

Name and Email Address of the Local Newspapers:

The Bolivar Bulletin Times

editor@hardemancountyjournal.com

The Hatchie Press

news@hatchiepress.com