

The Rotary Ethics Essay Contest


District Level Grand Prize Scholarship

\$2,000

plus \$300 to student's teacher

\$500 each to 2 runners-up

and \$100 for their teachers

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- ***Have you ever been challenged by an ethical dilemma?***
 - ***What happened? What did you do?***
 - ***Would you have done things differently?***

LET ROTARY KNOW

Essay Topic

- Write on an ethical dilemma that has touched your life. Include your view of the importance of ethics in this particular situation.
- You must include your personal definition of ethics.

Rules

- The essay must be the original, unpublished work of the student, and only one essay per student may be submitted.
- You must be enrolled in a high school or live in District 5300. And, you must be in the 9-12 grade on March 1, 2026.
- The essay must be no more than 1,000 or less than 800 words and submitted in Word or PDF format.
- The essay must be submitted to local participating Rotary Club for 1st round of competition by April 1.

Judging Criteria and Procedures

Only those essays that follow the "Topics and Rules" will be judged.

The contest is held on two competition levels:

First at the local Rotary club level, and second at the District level. The student who wins first place at the Club level automatically advances to the District level.

1. Clarity of message and presentation of idea (40%)
2. Style and originality (40%)
3. Grammar, spelling, and structure (20%)

District Entry Deadline MARCH 31, 2026

For more information contact: _____



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