



## **Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness 17<sup>th</sup> Annual High School Essay Contest Scholarship**

We are requesting your assistance in promoting participation in this year's Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA) Essay Contest. High school juniors and seniors in Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell, Burke, Columbia, Edgefield and Richmond County schools are eligible to submit entries. The winning students will receive a \$1,000 scholarship, and a group of second place finishers will receive a \$500 scholarship each. Last year we gave out 6 scholarships worth a total of \$4,500!

The goal of the CNTA Essay Contest is to increase high school student awareness of nuclear technologies and their impact on society. Successful essays require students to integrate science, technology, social understanding and language arts. Researching a technical topic, relating the information to society, and effectively communicating the information in writing are great skills for any high school student to practice and demonstrate.

The winning students, their parents and school representatives will be invited to be honored guests recognized at a CNTA event in the spring/summer (as schedules permit).

CNTA is a grassroots organization comprised of individuals, families and businesses dedicated to raising the level of awareness of nuclear technologies. The Essay Contest is an exciting part of this mission. CNTA staff and essay contest judges look forward each year to receiving and reviewing student essays, and being able to recognize and reward deserving students and their schools. Over the course of the essay scholarship program, CNTA has awarded over \$70,000 to deserving students.

Your assistance is requested in promoting student participation in this exciting opportunity by forwarding this information to your district high school principals, guidance counselors, advisors, and science and language arts instructors. The attachments provide details on the essay contest topics, rules, deadlines and points of contact if you or your staff has any additional questions.

Sincerely,

*Jim Marra*

Dr. James Marra  
Executive Director, CNTA



**Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness 17<sup>th</sup> Annual High School Essay Contest**

Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA), a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, is sponsoring an essay contest for students in Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell, Burke, Columbia and Richmond County schools and homeschools. Current junior and senior high school students in these counties, and current CNTA members’ family regardless of their county of enrollment, are invited to submit a 1,000-1,500 word essay on one of the following topics:

- *There are numerous applications of nuclear technology in the medical industry, such as radioisotopes for medical diagnostics or therapies. Some of these applications have been around for many years, and other innovations are being developed. Discuss at least two (2) uses of nuclear technology in medicine and their impact on the medical industry.*
- *There are many differences between the generation of greenhouse gases from various energy sources, such as wind, solar, and fossil fuels compared to nuclear energy. Discuss the differences in greenhouse gas generation between these sources and nuclear energy. Consider the “cradle-to-grave” cycle of each energy source.*
- *Nuclear technology is being used in emerging technologies, such as supporting habitation in space, and producing energy via small-modular reactors and micro-reactors. Discuss the use of nuclear technology in emerging technologies and the potential impacts of these uses on society.*

The competition will be judged by the Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness staff and general membership representatives.<sup>1</sup>

The winning students will receive a \$1,000 scholarship, and a group of second place finishers will receive a \$500 scholarship each. Contest winners will be recognized on our website, in a press release and at one of our fall community events.

The purpose of the CNTA Essay Contest is to promote a better understanding of nuclear technology among high school students. It also provides an incentive for the development of written communication skills that are vital to continued success in education and in the workforce.

**Contact: Dr. Jim Marra, (803) 649-3456**

\*\*\*\*\*

**February 28, 2023:** Deadline date for essay submittal. The essay submission must include a completed Official Student Entry Form. **Electronic Submittal is preferred.**

Electrical Submittal:  
[cnta@bellsouth.net](mailto:cnta@bellsouth.net)

Mail To:  
CNTA  
Attention: **Dr. Jim Marra**  
**1204 Whiskey Road, Suite B**  
**Aiken, SC 29803-4318**

**March-April 2023:** Notification of CNTA essay winners. Invitation to be recognized at CNTA event.

---

<sup>1</sup> See attached “Rules” sheet for additional details



## CNTA Annual High School Essay Contest

### Contestant Qualifications and Rules:

1. Participants must be enrolled in a school (including homeschools) within the Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell, Burke, Columbia or Richmond County areas. CNTA members' families (high school juniors or seniors) are considered eligible regardless of their county of enrollment. **A contestant is allowed to submit only one essay in the competition.**
2. Contestants must be high school students in grades 11 or 12.
3. Each contestant must prepare his or her own essay. The essay is to address one of the following topics:
  - *There are numerous applications of nuclear technology in the medical industry, such as radioisotopes for medical diagnostics or therapies. Some of these applications have been around for many years, and other innovations are being developed. Discuss at least two (2) uses of nuclear technology in medicine and their impact on the medical industry.*
  - *There are many differences between the generation of greenhouse gases from various energy sources, such as wind, solar, and fossil fuels compared to nuclear energy. Discuss the differences in greenhouse gas generation between these sources and nuclear energy. Consider the "cradle-to-grave" cycle of each energy source.*
  - *Nuclear technology is being used in emerging technologies, such as supporting habitation in space, and producing energy via small-modular reactors and micro-reactors. Discuss the use of nuclear technology in emerging technologies and the potential impacts of these uses on society.*
4. Contestants must submit one (1) copy of their essay in its final form to the Contest Director by the due date of February 28, 2023. **Each essay must be accompanied by an Official Student Entry.** They must be received by USPS or email before close on the 28<sup>th</sup>.
5. The Essay Contest Director will verify that the content of the essay relates to one of the nuclear technology topics. Essays not relating to the topic will be returned to the contestant and will be ruled ineligible for competition. Written copies of all competing essays will be held by CNTA for one (1) year.
6. 1<sup>st</sup> place essays may be submitted to local newspapers for publication consideration. They will also be posted on [cntaware.org](http://cntaware.org) for the year.
7. Essays arriving **after the due date of February 28, 2023** will be ruled ineligible for competition.
8. Contestants may not identify themselves, their city or state, or their schools in the context of their essay.
9. No handouts or additional materials may be used with the essays.
10. Essays must be limited to 1,000-1,500 words.
11. Contestants may use quotations and/or copyrighted materials, but must identify the original author. The appropriate use of such material is the responsibility of the contestant.
12. **Essays must include proper citation of sources.**
13. The \$1000 and \$500 scholarships will be awarded to the student for use towards post-high school education.



**Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness  
2023 High School Essay Scholarship Contest  
Official Student Entry Form**

**STUDENT CONTACT INFORMATION:**

LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME COMMONLY CALLED: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS TO CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ESSAY TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

COLLEGE PLANS: \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHOOL INFORMATION:**

NAME OF SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

---

**ELECTRONIC SUBMITTAL:**  
(Preferred)  
[cnta@bellsouth.net](mailto:cnta@bellsouth.net)

**MAIL ESSAY TO:**  
CNTA  
Attention: Dr. James Marra  
1204 Whiskey Road, Suite B  
Aiken, SC 29803