

## ***CITIZENS FOR NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS***

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(803) 649-3456

### **CNTA Accepting Applications for 20<sup>th</sup> Annual High School Essay Contest**

Local students have a chance to win up to \$1,500 in scholarships from Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA).

CNTA's High School Essay Contest applications are open. High school juniors and seniors in Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell, Burke, Columbia, Edgefield and Richmond County schools are eligible to submit entries. High school juniors and seniors of CNTA members, regardless of their county of enrollment, are also eligible. Home school students are also eligible to enter.

Winners will receive varying amounts from \$500 up to the top essay winning of \$1,500.

The essay should be 1,000-to-1,500 words and discuss one of the following topics:

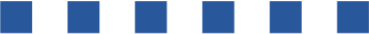
- *Many scientific innovations have come from the Savannah River Site, which turns 75 this year. Pick one and explain what the innovation was and how it has improved our lives. What would our world look like without this innovation? Options include: the neutrino, PU-238, or vitrification of high-level waste.*
- *The need for new energy sources has been in the news frequently. Explain why Plant Vogtle was a necessary step in producing clean energy in our region and what the future for clean energy production looks like in the United States. Discussion can include small modular reactors, the reopening of construction at V.C. Summer, AI and data center energy needs in the future, etc.*
- *Nuclear medicine technology continues to thrive at the forefront of clinical medicine. Nuclear medicine technologists are qualified to perform nuclear medicine procedures by education, licensure, certification, and continuing education. Explain why a nuclear medicine technologist is a vital part of our current health care system, what their role is, and how one can join this profession.*


"Successful essays require students to integrate science, technology, social understanding, and language arts," said Allison Molnar, CNTA Executive Director. "Researching a technical topic, relating the information to society, and effectively communicating the information are great skills for any high school student to practice and demonstrate. The CNTA Essay Contest provides an incentive for the development of written communication skills that are vital to continued success in education and in the workforce."

The deadline to submit essays is February 28, 2026. Contest winners will be recognized at the 2026 Annual Edward Teller Banquet and will be invited to attend a summer Up & Atom breakfast to be recognized.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual CNTA Essay Contest is supported by Southern Nuclear- Plant Vogtle and several anonymous benefactors.

The essay content flyer, rules, and entry form are available on CNTA's website at: [cntaware.org/high-school-essay-contest](http://cntaware.org/high-school-essay-contest). For additional information, contact Allison Molnar at [office@cntaware.org](mailto:office@cntaware.org) or (803) 649-3456.





# 20th Annual ESSAY CONTEST

**Calling all High School  
Juniors & Seniors!!**

Eligibility requirements online

**Write a 1,500 word essay on one of the  
following topics:**

1. Many scientific innovations have come from the Savannah River Site, which turns 75 this year. Pick one and explain what the innovation was and how it has improved our lives.
2. The need for new energy sources has been in the news frequently. Explain why Plant Vogtle was a vital step in producing clean energy in our region and what the future for clean energy production looks like in the United States.
3. Explain why a nuclear medicine technologist is a vital part of our current health care system, what their role is, and how one can join this profession.

**Submit YOURS by  
February 28, 2026**

**Submit your  
Essay Package  
via Email!**

**office@cntaware.org**

**(803) 649-3456**

**SHOW YOUR WRITING SKILLS  
WIN UP TO \$1,500!!**

**[www.cntaware.org](http://www.cntaware.org)**

