

Dear Principal or Guidance Counselor:

The North Alabama Professionals Chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NAL NSBE Professionals) invites high school students within the Northern Alabama school districts to participate in our annual High School Essay Contest. The NAL NSBE Professionals was established out of a need to stimulate and sustain minority participation in Engineering and the Applied Sciences. This chapter of NSBE Professionals encourages and advises youth in their pursuits of careers in engineering and the applied sciences by offering programs and services that include scholarship endowment, tutorial programs, advanced study skills and much more.

The High School Essay Contest is a time-honored tradition of the NAL NSBE Professionals, which give us an opportunity to advance the importance of the written word. The contest has dual purposes – to motivate today's youth toward journalistic development and to increase awareness of issues facing modern society.

The criteria for the High School Essay Contest are as follows:

The paper must address the topic: **ENGINEERING COMMUNITY**

Describe a problem/issue in your community that you believe can be solved with Engineering (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) (STEM)? What role can your school help to implement the change? Why is this necessary and which engineering discipline would best help solve the problem?

- Double spaced, typed paper no less than 2 pages and no more than 4 pages
- Participants must be in 9th –12th grade (open to all students)
- Papers must be postmarked before **Friday, March 9, 2024.**
- The following are the judging criteria for the essays:
 - ORIGINALITY - uniqueness of thought (50%)
 - CONTENT - supporting text (25%)
 - PRESENTATION - clarity of expression, quality of grammar (appropriate to grade), and neatness of presentation (25%)

Authors of the top essays will receive a monetary award in the amount of \$250. Please instruct the applicants for the High School Essay Contest to submit their essays to the following address no later than **Friday, March 9, 2024** or you may complete the application online at <http://tinyurl.com/NSBE2024HSEssay>.

**NAL NSBE Professionals
Attn: High School Essay Contest
P.O. Box 949
Huntsville, AL 35804**

A panel of objective judges will determine the winners. The decision of the judges is final. Winners will be recognized at the NAL NSBE Professionals Annual Scholarship Program scheduled in **April 2024.**

There is no limit on the number of students that may participate from each school, church, or community. If there are any questions or concerns, you may contact Melvin Felton at (256) 679-2892 (email: scholarhsip@nsbe-northalabamaae.com) or Pam McDonald email: sbenorthalabamaae@gmail.com.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,



Melvin D. Felton
Scholarship Committee Chairperson
North Alabama NSBE Professionals

Enclosures: High School Essay Contest Application

HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST APPLICATION

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Student Information							
Last:		First:		MI:			
Address:							
City:		State:		Zip Code:			
Home Phone:		Cell Phone:		Email:			
Sex:			DOB:				
Ethnicity (mark with X):		Black:	Caucasian:	Hispanic:	Asian:	Native American:	Other:
High School/Current Grade:			Anticipated Graduation Date:		GPA:		

Parent/Guardian Information				
Last:		First:		MI:
Address:				
City:		State:		Zip Code:
Home Phone:		Cell Phone:		Email:

II. APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Along with this application each applicant must submit his/her essay. Each essay must be typed, double spaced, a minimum of 2 pages and a maximum of 4 pages. The paper must address the topic:

ENGINEERING A CULTURAL CHANGE

Describe a problem/issue in your community that you believe can be solved with Engineering (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) (STEM)? What role can your school help to implement the change? Why is this necessary and which engineering discipline would best help solve the problem?

Submit essay and completed application to the following address below on or before **Friday, March 9, 2024** or you may complete the application online at <http://tinyurl.com/NSBE2024HSEssay> .

NAL NSBE Professionals
Attn: High School Essay Contest
P. O. Box 949
Huntsville, AL 35804

By signing this application you are certifying that all of the information contained herein is true and correct.

Applicants Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parents Signature: _____

Date: _____