



High School Essay Contest 2015 - 2016

The Florida Independent Concrete and Associated Products Association (FICAP) is sponsoring the annual *High School Essay on Concrete Contest* for Florida and your students are invited to participate.

All entries into FICAP's Essay Contest will be judged by a panel of industry personnel and FICAP will award cash prizes to the first place (\$250) and second-place (\$100) essays for each region. The first place winners of each region will then be judged and a first place winner (an additional prize of \$250) will be selected to represent the State in the National Contest. The Statewide First Place winner will have their essay published in the spring edition of *In the Mix*, a FICAP eNews publication, in addition to the cash prizes.

The winner of the Florida contest will be entered into the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association's (NRMCA) nationwide essay contest. The **winner** of the **national** contest will be flown, along with a parent or guardian, to NRMCA's 2016 convention in San Diego, California in March 2016. He/she will be selected from the entries generated from respective statewide contests.

The entries received by NRMCA will be judged by industry executives and college/university faculty members with a concrete-related background. In addition to being NRMCA's guest at the convention and being introduced at the convention's business session, the national winner will also receive a scholarship of \$ 5,000 if they enroll in a concrete-related curriculum such as those offered at:

Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro
New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark
California State University at Chico
Texas State University in San Marcos
Florida International University in Miami

Other eligible programs are Alpena College in Michigan or Rhodes State College in Ohio, for his or her freshmen year. Should the winner not choose to enroll in a concrete-related curriculum, he or she will receive a \$ 2,000 scholarship for the freshmen year at the college of his or her choice. All state entries will receive a certificate of appreciation from NRMCA for entering the contest along with a notification of the winner.

The rules are as follows:

- Open to all high school students ages 16-18 at the beginning of the school term.
- Essay must be typed, double-spaced and not exceed 600 words.
- Submit a hard copy of the essay accompanied by an entry form (enclosed).
- Send essay and entry form to: michele@ficap.org.
- Essays will be judged on content and writing ability (grammar, style, clarity, etc.). Remember, this is **not a report** about concrete but an **essay** about concrete.
- Winning essay authors will be asked to submit a photo.

Essay idea starters: Concrete's positive effects on environment, the job market, etc.
Concrete's benefits to society.
Concrete is green.

Both FICAP and NRMCA reserve the right to publish the winning entries in whole or in part.
All entries become the property of FICAP, and entries in the national contest become the property of NRMCA.

Please submit entries by **Friday, November 20, 2015**.

FICAP · PO Box 953905 · Lake Mary, FL 32795-3905
info@ficap.org · www.ficap.org · 407-302-3316