



High School Essay Contest Rules and Information

The **Minnesota Concrete Council (MCC)** is dedicated to advancing education, technical practice, scientific investigation and research into cast-in-place concrete materials and construction by organizing the efforts of its members as a non-profit service organization. Individual memberships and member companies represent design, construction and support industries associated with reinforced and post-tensioned concrete construction throughout Minnesota. MCC is a State Affiliate of NRMCA.

Founded in 1930, the **National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA)** is the leading industry advocate. NRMCA's mission is to provide exceptional value for its members by responsibly representing and serving the entire ready mixed concrete industry through leadership, promotion, education and partnering to ensure ready mixed concrete is the building material of choice.

The Annual National High School Essay Contest is open to students between the ages of 16-18 at the beginning of the 2016-17 school term. The purpose of the contest is to increase awareness of the ready mixed concrete industry among our younger generation while looking to develop the next generation of industry leaders. Competitions are first held at the state level and those winners proceed to the national competition. The winner of the Minnesota contest will receive a \$500 scholarship and the winning essay will be forwarded on for inclusion in the national competition. The winner of the national contest is flown, along with a parent or guardian, to [NRMCA's Annual Convention](#) and will receive either a \$2,000 or \$5,000 scholarship based on the winner's chosen field of study.

The rules are as follows:

- Open to all high school students ages 16-18 at the beginning of the school term.
- An entry form must be included with all essays. That form, along with the essay and a photo of the student, must be forwarded to MCC by the specified December 1, 2016.
- Entries must be typed, double-spaced and not exceed 600 words.
- Essays will be judged on content and writing ability (grammar, style, clarity, etc.). Possible themes include concrete's benefits to society; how concrete affects the environment and using concrete to build homes, commercial buildings, bridges or roads. Essays should demonstrate a student's awareness of concrete's role as a building material in homes, commercial buildings, streets and highways.

The entries received by MCC will be judged by members the MCC scholarship committee, board of directors and staff. The winning Minnesota entry will win a \$500 scholarship and their entry will be forwarded for inclusion in the national competition. 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 high school essay contest winner will also receive a scholarship of \$5,000 if he or she enrolls for freshman year in a concrete-related curriculum such as the Concrete Industry Management programs offered at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark, California State University at Chico and Texas State University in San Marcos. Other eligible programs would include those at Alpena College in Michigan or Rhodes State College in Ohio, or other majors directly related to the concrete industry, such as those for construction materials science/engineering. Should the winner not choose to enroll in a concrete-related curriculum, he or she will receive a \$2,000 scholarship for the freshman year at the college of his or her choice. All entries will receive a certificate of appreciation for entering the contest along with a notification of the winner.

Questions? Please contact Margaret Mills, Administrator of the Minnesota Concrete Council at 651-482-9549 or via e-mail at margaret@mnconcretecouncil.com

Entry form, essay and picture of the student needs to be received by MCC no later than Thursday, December 1, 2016.
Send entry to: Minnesota Concrete Council – PO Box 116 – Rosemount, MN 55068 or e-mail to margaret@mnconcretecouncil.com



High School Essay Contest Entry Form

Entry Date:

Student Name:

Parent or Guardian's Name:

Street Address:

City, State, ZIP:

Home Phone:

Email Address:

Student's Birth Date:

School Presently Attending:

School Contact (Name and phone number of a teacher or school official familiar with the student):

I have read the rules of the 2016-2017 National Ready Mixed Concrete Association Essay Contest and agree to abide by them:

Student signature

Date

I have read the rules of the 2016-2017 National Ready Mixed Concrete Association Essay Contest and agree to abide by them:

Parent or Guardian signature

Date

Please return essay and entry form no later than December 1, 2016 to:
Minnesota Concrete Council - PO Box 116, Rosemount, MN 55068 or margaret@mnconcretecouncil.com