



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

is pleased to announce its annual

International High School Essay Contest

As a mandated element of the Annual International Achievement Week Observance

Four College Scholarship Awards:

1st Scholarship: \$5,000; 2nd Scholarship: \$3,000; 3rd Scholarship: \$2,000; 4th Scholarship: \$1,000

NOTE: These award amounts are only at the International Level in 2022, not from the local chapter contest.

Contest Closes: October 15, 2021

2021 Essay Title:

Promoting self-employment and entrepreneurship is an important way of creating new jobs and enhancing the labor market for the unemployed and other disadvantaged groups. In a post-COVID environment, why is it essential that young people change their mindset towards self-employment?

Eligibility & Rules

The Contest is open to **Black, male, college-bound, high school seniors** attending schools in Chicago who submit an essay application through a Chapter of the Fraternity.

The essay must be original and neither previously published nor secured by copyright. The essay must be between 700 and 750 words in length. **The type-written, double-spaced essay may be submitted via postal service or email in *Microsoft Word*.**

Submission Process

All submissions will be reviewed by your local Chapter (determined by your high school/home address). Submissions will not be accepted after **October 15, 2021**. **Do not change or shorten the Essay Topic.**

The following information for the contestant must appear on the first page in this manner:

Title: _____
An Essay By: _____ Home Street Address: _____
City, State, Zip Code: _____ Name of High School: _____
Address of High School: _____
Student Email: _____ Phone # _____
Contest Name: Omega Psi Phi Fraternity International High School Essay Contest
Name of Sponsoring Chapter: **Iota Chapter** Location of Chapter: **Chicago, Illinois**

The manuscript must be postmarked or time stamped on the email not later than midnight, October 15, 2021, and **sent to an Omega Psi Phi Chapter Sponsoring the Essay Contest.**

Essays are not to be sent to the International Headquarters and will considered ineligible.



Rating Criteria

All local Chapters will assemble a review panel to assess submitted essays based on the following criteria. Essays may earn a maximum rating of 100 points.

- 1. Development of Topic/Thesis:** (30 possible points)
Topic is well-developed (covers and develops major points, supplying enough information for understanding)
- 2. Progression:** (20 possible points)
Composition progresses from beginning to end in a logical flow of information
- 3. Readability:** (25 possible points)
Concise prose that sticks to the point and does not ramble (holds reader's attention)
- 4. Grammar:** (15 possible points)
Agreement of subject and verb; proper tense; correct sentence construction; paragraphing, including transitional phrases linking same
- 5. Spelling:** (5 possible points)
- 6. Punctuation:** (5 possible points)

Additional Information

Persons submitting manuscripts thereby grant to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. the right to keep the manuscripts and to exercise full publishing rights to them. Awards will be announced on or about June 1, 2022, and the decision of the judges will be final. The manuscripts must present an adequate treatment of the essay topic. Winners may be required to furnish written proof that they were enrolled in their respective high school at the time the essay was submitted. Awards will be submitted to each winner, upon written verification from an institution of higher education that the individual has enrolled. Actual enrollment (not just acceptance) is required. Awards must be claimed within 18 months after the announcement date to be valid.

Local Chapter Contact

Local Chapter Name: **Iota Chapter**
Contact: **Melvin M. Slater, Sr.**
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