



After reviewing a similar program run by the Office of the State Treasurer last year, employees of the Office of the State Election Commissioner launched an initiative to further promote the importance of voter education for students throughout Delaware. The 'Casual for the Cause' Student Essay Contest was born and once again invites you to participate in this year's program. This initiative offers each staff member the opportunity to pay a dollar each day he or she wishes to wear jeans to work. This dollar goes directly into a fund established to provide \$50 savings bonds to winners of a student essay contest. Over the course of the last several months, funds have been raised by Elections staff and we are now ready to read your essays!

Here's the drill:

1. All Delaware students in grades 4-12 are eligible for the program. Students will complete the form below and attach it to an essay of 200 words or less.
2. The theme of the essay must be centered on the importance of voter education on the candidates and issues in an election.
3. The essay, along with this form, must be submitted to the Office of the State Election Commissioner for review no later than October 19, 2012.
4. Each essay will be evaluated by a panel of staff members of the Commissioner's Office and a winner within each grade grouping will be chosen. Grade groupings are 3-6, 7-8, and 9-12.
5. Winning students will receive a \$50 savings bond courtesy of the Election Staff and the 'Casual for the Cause' program.
6. All submitters consent to having their essays published on the State Election Commissioner's website.

Winning essays will be read by the winners at the Mock Election Convention being held on November 2, 2012 at Legislative Hall in Dover.

Ways to submit your essay...

Mail: Office of the State Election Commissioner
905 S. Governors Ave., Suite 170
Dover, DE 19904

E-Mail: COE_Vote@state.de.us
Fax: (302) 739-6794

Name: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____
School: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____