CITY ESSAY JUDGING

2019 - 2020 COMPETITION

CLEAN WATER – TAP INTO TOMORROW
• Today’s engineers, architects, and city leaders face the critical task of creating resilient cities. A resilient city withstands drought, flooding, big population changes, natural disasters, economic recessions, and other short and long-term threats. When it comes to a city’s water supply system, resilience means providing adequate clean water for both residential and commercial uses under all possible circumstances. Resilience requires preventing and fixing leaks, identifying and removing contaminants, and making sure the supply of water always meets demand in the face of disruptions and longer-term changes. As a part of a resilient city, a reliable water supply ensures that clean and safe water is provided to all its residents for their well-being, to keep their communities stable and cared for, and the city economy strong and durable.

• **Student’s Challenge:** Choose a threat to your city’s water supply and design a resilient system to maintain a reliable source of clean drinking water.
CITY ESSAY ASSIGNMENTS & SCHEDULE

• City Essays will be released for scoring on **December 18**th

• We will email you when we have assigned essays to you
  • If there are late submittals, we will release all essays as they become available. We will inform you if you have been assigned essays that have not been submitted.
    • If you are willing and able to grade last minute essays, please let us know.
    • Point deductions for late submittals will be assigned by the committee.

• City Essays must be graded by **January 7**th

• Please contact Amanda and Heather ASAP if you have any issues, [fcc.judge.albany@outlook.com](mailto:fcc.judge.albany@outlook.com).
CITY ESSAY REQUIREMENTS

• Students select a threat or stressor to the drinking water supply for their city based on its climate, geography, or issues specific to that city, such as rapidly growing or shrinking population, industrial base, or another factor.

• Although the focus of the essay is the water supply system, the general theme of resiliency should be evident in other aspects of their city as well.

• Essay cannot exceed 1,500 words and should be free of grammatical and spelling errors

• Essay can include a maximum of four (4) graphics

• Essay must cite at least three sources of information used during the idea development process (MLA style is preferred) – link to MLA resource is on Judge Information website page

• Students should use a variety of sources of information such as interviews with experts, reference books, periodicals, and websites (Wikipedia is not accepted as a source of research)
RUBRIC CLARIFICATION & SCORING STRATEGY


• If you need any clarification on rubric, please email Amanda and Heather at fcc.albany.judge@outlook.com.

• We recommend reading all your assigned essays before you start scoring OR revisit your earlier scoring to revise based on comparison of other essays. This will give you a good idea of what to expect, keep in mind these are essays by 6th, 7th, and 8th graders.
CITY ESSAY SCORING

1. Project Plan 10 Points  Pre-Competition Judging
2. Virtual City 48 Points  Pre-Competition Judging
3. City Essay 60 Points  Pre-Competition Judging
4. City Model 70 Points  Competition Day Judging
5. City Presentation 70 Points  Competition Day Judging
CITY ESSAY SCORING

• **Follow the rubric!!**
  - Rubric is available on Competition Management System (CMS), attached to email, and available on Judge Information website page

• Points Breakdown
  - Introduce City & Define Problem  15 points
  - Specs and Solutions  21 points
  - Judge Assessment of Solution  12 points
  - Writing Skills  12 points

60 points
CITY ESSAY ASSIGNMENTS

• There are 21 teams, each will submit one (1) essay
• Each essay must be graded at least three times
• You will grade essays using the Competition Management System (CMS)
CITY ESSAY SCORING

1. Log-in to your CMS account (link included in essay assignment email) OR
   • Go to Judge Information page for link
2. View your assignments under the “City Essay” tab
   i. If you have volunteered to judge more than one deliverable or on competition day, you will have multiple tabs.
3. Click on the links in the “Download” column to access your assigned essays
   • Will more than likely be a Word file
4. Click on the links in the “City Name” or “Your Score” column to access the digital rubric where you will enter your scores
CITY ESSAY SCORING

4. Click on the links in the “City Name” or “Your Score” column to access the digital rubric where you will enter your scores

- You can use a hard copy of the rubric if it is easier for you to score the essays but you must enter your scores in the digital rubric when complete
  - A PDF of the rubric is available on the Judge Information website page and attached to assignment email
- If you would like to revise your previous scores, you are able to do this by clicking on the links in the “City Name” or “Your Score” column.
JUDGE COMMENTS

• You have the opportunity to provide comments to the teams on their essay.
• These comments should be constructive to help the students or teachers improve in future years.
• Heather and Amanda will review the comments and approve them before they go to the team.