



THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA IN COOPERATION WITH
THE WORKSHOPS FOUNDATION IS PROUD TO PRESENT THE

CONGRESSIONAL SEMINAR ESSAY APPLICATION

Topic: "Describe the principles in the Declaration of Independence you believe are most important in lifting the human condition and explain how they have helped this country meet evolving challenges over our 249 years?"

Complete this application and submit this form and your essay to your Corporate Society or Town Committee, or deposit both in the Dropbox folder accessible at (<https://nscda.org/student-resources/congressional-essay-contest/>)

SAVE AS the file name: State Abbreviation-Student Last Name-Student First Name.PDF (ex: VA-Doe-John.PDF)

STUDENT INFORMATION (please fill in fields below online and save or download to print and clearly print by hand)

Name: Last First

Home address:

City: State: Zip: Permanent Email:

Home phone: Alternate phone (cell):

Parent/Guardians Name: Last First

Parent cell phone: Parent Email:

Year in School: ☐ Fr. ☐ Soph ☐ Jr. ☐ Sr.

School Name: School Phone:

School Address: City: State: Zip:

Name and title of faculty member if appropriate:

Faculty phone:

Faculty email:

Local Newspaper(s):

Student signature: Date:

PLEASE NOTE

ELIGIBILITY • Applicants must be in their freshman, sophomore, junior or senior year of high school. Exceptions will be made only under extraordinary circumstances.

USE OF AI - Students may not use AI tools to write or create their essays for them. Any Essay found to have been drafted or created by AI (Artificial Intelligence) will be disqualified.

PROPER ATTRIBUTION IS REQUIRED - Failure to properly cite sources is considered plagiarism.

ITINERARY CHANGES • Although changes are not expected some activities or program days may be adjusted or modified due to availability or schedule conflicts.

USE OF QUOTES, VIDEO, AND PHOTOGRAPHY • Workshops Foundation and the NSCDA reserve the right to use photographs, video, or participant quotes (written and spoken) from the program to be used for promotional or training purposes.

RESPONSIBILITY • The Workshops Foundation, The NSCDA, partnering tour operators (and staff) shall not be held liable or responsible for (a) any damages to or loss of property during the seminar;

and (B) any illness, accident, dismemberment or death during the seminar. The participant waves any claims against the Workshops Foundation (and staff), partnering tour operators, and the NSCDA, for any such damage or loss.

SEMINAR STANDARDS • Each participant and his/her parent or legal guardian must agree to the following disclaimer upon admittance to the program:

I understand that the Workshops Foundation congressional seminar is an academic program and the highest level of behavior is required and expected. I will fully read, understand, agree to and sign the seminar standards which will be included in the information packet that each student will receive shortly after enrollment with the Workshops Foundation. I fully understand that violation of seminar standards may result in my removal from the program and that all costs associated with removal or separation from the group will be my and/or my parent or guardian's financial responsibility.

You may obtain a copy of the seminar standards at www.workshops.org or by calling 1-800-368-5688 to request a copy to be mailed to you.

Participants are responsible for any property damage to the housing facility they may incur during residence

NSCDA CONGRESSIONAL SEMINAR ESSAY RULES & INFORMATION

The NSCDA is pleased to offer this amazing opportunity to current or rising 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students!

The deadline to submit is 11:59 PM on December 1.

- Essays are judged by their content (focus, accuracy, clarity, and logic), form (grammar, punctuation, and word choice), and individuality (structure, context, persuasion, and style).
 - Students may not use AI tools to write or create their essays for them. Any essay found to have been written or created by AI (Artificial Intelligence) will be disqualified.
- Each student must submit an application form, essay, and list of sources in the MLA or Chicago citation styles.
 - Note to teachers:
 - If students are participating as part of a class or school project, please note that all students must submit an individual application form and essay.
 - Teachers assigning this essay as part of a class or school project should filter the top ten essays to submit to the Congressional Seminar Essay Contest for consideration.
- The essay should be submitted in 12 pt Times New Roman font. The essays must be typed, double-spaced, and, if printed, on one side of the page only. Add the student name and email as a header in the upper right-hand corner of the essay and repeat it on every page.
- Do not attach or insert pictures or add any color text or images to any pages.
- Essays must be 750 words or fewer, excluding the sources cited.
- The title of the essay must be the same as the essay topic for the given year.
- Students submitting physical copies of their application and essay should send three copies of each essay to their designated State Patriotic Service or Essay Chair.
- Email or mail your application and essay to your local/State NSCDA Congressional Essay Chair or Patriotic Service Chair as directed.
 - If you do not have a Colonial Dame contact for your State please deposit this form and your essay in the Dropbox folder on the NSCDA Website.
 - ❖ Site path: NSCDA.org under grants & Scholarships, Congressional Essay Contest
 - SAVE AS the file name: State Abbreviation-Student Last Name-Student First Name.PDF (ex: VA-Doe-John.PDF)
- If you have any questions, please email carolineeisenhuth@nscda.org. Reference “Congressional Seminar Essay Contest” in the subject line of the email and in the body of the email give your full name, city and state, email(s) and phone contact(s).