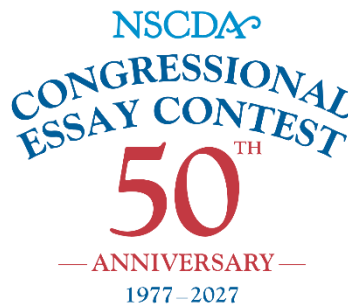




Summer Scholarships for High School Students

Washington, D.C. June 21-26, 2027

The Contest: The Congressional Essay Contest is an annual contest run by The National Society of the Colonial Dames. Every fall, high school students are invited to write a 750-word essay about the functions of our government. The NSCDA selects the best-conceived and articulated essays and awards winners with scholarships to its Congressional Seminar the following summer. (More than 50 scholarships are awarded annually.)

This year's topic: "The Declaration of Independence famously asserts that governments derive their just powers "from the consent of the governed." How did the Founders address the issue of consent through representation in the Constitution, and do you see the need for any changes today?"

The Congressional Seminar: The seminar is a five-day, highly interactive workshop conducted by NSCDA's long-time partner, the Workshops Foundation. It includes a Mock Congress, enabling students to collaborate with peers from across the country to forge public policy on pressing national and international issues. Participants have the opportunity to hone their leadership and public speaking skills while enjoying access to congressional and government offices as well as memorable tours to museums.

The Scholarship: Scholarships cover the cost of university campus housing and meals along with an additional per diem for lunches on tours off campus. Corporate Societies offer varying levels of travel support.

Deadline for submission: December 1, 2026

Contest Entry: Click on the link below to find the Congressional Essay Contest (<https://nscda.org/grants-and-scholarships/congressional-essay-contest/>)

Questions? Please contact CEC@nscda.org

The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America Actively Promotes Our National Heritage through Historic Preservation, Patriotic Service, and Educational Projects