

**2018-2019 Kansas PTA Citizenship
Program
General Participation Rules
“My Motivation”**

1. Theme

The theme for the 2018-2019 Kansas PTA Citizenship Program is “My Motivation”
Only new pieces of literature inspired by the theme are acceptable.

2. Student Eligibility through Local PTAs

Students must participate in the Citizenship Program through a local PTA/PTSA in good standing or through the Kansas PTA Golden Oaks PTA. Parent groups not affiliated with the Kansas PTA organization are not eligible to sponsor this program. It is the responsibility of the local and council PTA/PTSA to determine each student’s eligibility in the Citizenship Program.

3. Eligible Grades

Students in 5th thru 12th grades may participate in the Citizenship Program.

4. Categories

Students may submit an entry in Poetry and/or Essay. The Kansas PTA does not limit the number of entries a student may submit.

5. Children with disabilities

PTA believes that each child with a disability should be provided a free and appropriate public education. Therefore, the Citizenship Program does not have a special category for students with disabilities. Further information regarding students with disabilities can be found in the Poetry and Essay Rules.

6. Deadlines

Each student must submit their entry by the deadline established by their local PTA/PTSA. Each local PTA/PTSA sponsoring the program will set a deadline for entries in adherence with the council, region, and state deadlines. These entries are judged, and the selected entries are forwarded to the next level of judging by the appropriate deadline.

7. Judging

All entries are judged on originality, organization, support of thought, and relevance to theme. Each PTA determines its own judges for the program. Under no conditions may parents or students contact the judges to dispute the status of an entry. All judges’ decisions are final.

8. Award recipient notification

All local, council, and regional PTA/PTSAs are responsible for notifying students if their entry has received an award at their level of judging. The Kansas PTA Arts in Education chairman will notify in writing the state level award recipients.

**2018 - 2019 Kansas PTA Citizenship
Program Poetry and Essay Rules
“My Motivation”**

Students must adhere to the general participation rules as well as the following Poetry and Essay Rules.

1. The entry must relate to the current Citizenship Program theme. Whether an entry uses a variety of techniques or a simple approach, it will be judged primarily on how well the student portrays the theme. A well-developed concept is more important than technique.
2. Each entry must be the original work of one student only. An adult may not alter the creative integrity of a student's work. Because the program is designed to encourage student creativity, help from an adult or collaboration with other students is not allowed.
3. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified and returned to the students. Plagiarism is defined as taking and using another person's ideas, writings, or inventions as one's own.
4. All participants are required to fill out in its entirety and sign the Student Participation form. Students who have not completely filled out the entry form will not be eligible to participate in the program. In situations where the child cannot fill out the entry form or write legibly, a parent may sign his or her child's name.
5. Poetry entries must be at least 50 words but may not exceed 500 words. Essay entries must be at least 200 words but may not exceed 1000 words. Entries may be handwritten or typed, either on a typewriter or with a computer. Number all pages. Entries are to reflect grade-appropriate grammar, punctuation, and spelling.
6. Submit entries on any kind of paper, not to exceed 8 1/2 x 11 inches in size. Entries that are multiple pages must be submitted on one side of paper only. Write the student's name on the back of each page in case pages become separated. Students may have their entry typed by another person as long as the original work or a copy of the original work is attached.
7. Students who are physically challenged may dictate to another person who may type or write down the original work. Transcribers should make every attempt to retain the same level of language and accuracy that is reflected in the student's original work.
8. Students for whom English is not their first language may submit entries in their own language. An interpretative translation must accompany the entry. Translators should make every attempt to retain the same level of language and accuracy that is reflected in the student's original work.

**2018 - 2019 Kansas PTA Citizenship Program
Student Entry Form**

“My Motivation”

Local Unit Due Date _____

Grade (check one)

- 5th 9th
 6th 10th
 7th 11th
 8th 12th

All entries should be submitted labeled only with the student's entry type and grade level. Identifying information is only to be on this form which is to be stapled on the back on the entry. Entries submitted with identifying information will be returned as ineligible.

Student's Name _____ Grade _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Student _____ Email _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Phone _____

Parent/Guardian Email _____

Category (check one)

- Poetry
 Essay

Final Word Count _____

PTA includes state, region, council, and local PTA/PTSA organization or unit. I grant PTA permission to use my works for commercial or noncommercial use, including but not limited to public presentation of the work and reproduction of the work in print, electronic, and multimedia formats to promote the Citizenship Program. PTA may continue to use my work as long as it has access to a copy or to a slide. PTA is not responsible for lost or damaged works. Entries may not be returned. I understand that I must participate in the Citizenship Program through a PTA/PTSA in good standing. I affirm that this is my own original work. **I understand that the submission of my entry into the Citizenship Program constitutes acceptance of the above condition.**

Signature of Student (required) _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian (required) _____

Please Note: If this form is not completely filled out prior to submitting to your local PTA/ PTSA, PTA has the right to disqualify your entry.

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL PTA

Local PTA ID _____ PTA Name _____

PTA Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

Local Chairman Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

KANSAS PTA USE ONLY

Local PTA Status:

____ Membership Dues Received ____ Bylaws Received w/Signatures ____ Copy of IRS Form 990 Received