

Monmouth University School of Education Presents:

**Student Sustainability Summit**  
Call for Entries

K – 12 Student Essay or Video Competition  
Addressing the question,  
“What can we do for environmental sustainability?”

Monmouth University’s School of Education is calling on students in grades K – 12  
to share their views and suggestions on the following:  
**United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**

- Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation
- Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy
- Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities
- Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production
- Goal 13: Climate action
- Goal 14: Life below water
- Goal 15: Life on land

By answering the question, “What can we, as a student, school, community, or global citizen  
of the world, do to protect our planet and nature at risk?”

We want you to be a part of this global conversation,  
and look forward to your thoughts and ideas!

**Important Dates and Details:**

1. There are three groups, divided by grade groups: K – 4, 5 – 8, and 9 – 12
2. Dates to remember:
  - a. January 15, 2021 Competition closes at 11:59 pm.
  - b. February 1, 2021 The Selection Panel will announce finalists for the grade groups.
  - c. February 16, 2021 at 7:00 (EST, US) The Award Event,
    - i. Three finalists from each grade group will be chosen. The finalists will have the privilege of showcasing their work on the university’s website and be invited to give a speech, virtually via Zoom, at the event about their submission.
    - ii. One winner from each grade group will be selected, based on the quality of the content of their submission, and will be announced at the event. The winners will receive a cash award of \$100.
    - iii. Everyone is invited to view the Zoom presentation, so please invite your parents and teachers to see the event.

## Rules of the Competition

### Participation

1. Only students in grades K – 12 may enter
2. Only individual entries are admitted, no teams are allowed to take part in the competition
3. Students may submit an essay or a video, but not both. One submission per student is allowed.

### Guidelines

1. Copyright issues or plagiarism of any kind will result in disqualification
2. Students should keep at least one copy of their essay or video. Monmouth University is not responsible for any essay or video that is lost, damaged, or does not upload properly.
3. Please see a complete list of essay and video guidelines, listed on page 3 of this document.

### Selection Process

1. The panel of judges is composed of Monmouth University faculty experts and teacher candidates
2. Entries will be judged by the quality of content, with one winner chosen from each of the grade groups.
3. The judges' decision will be final.

### Prizes

1. The names and works of the three finalists from each grade group, K-4, 5-8, and 9-12, will be published on the official page for the competition, which is found on the Monmouth University School of Education website, under Annual Events and Publications, as well as the Sustainability Education Week webpage.
2. The finalists will be invited to give a short three-minute speech about their submission
3. One winner will be chosen from the finalists of each grade group.
4. Prize for the winner will be \$100.

### How to Enter:

1. To enter, go to: <https://bit.ly/36qPb3A>
2. All entries can be submitted through the Microsoft Form listed above, starting on November 30, 2020. The deadline for submissions is 11:59 pm on January 15, 2021. Finalists will be announced no later than February 1, 2021
  - a. All essays or videos, parent permission and photo releases must be emailed to [soedean@monmouth.edu](mailto:soedean@monmouth.edu) by 11:59 pm on January 15, 2021
3. Entries cannot be returned, so please remember to retain a copy.
4. All entries must be the original work of the entrant, and must not infringe the rights of any other party.
5. Entries must not contain defamatory, obscene, offensive or any other unsuitable material.
6. Entries must be suitable to be published for an audience of all ages.
7. You must submit the signed/completed Parent Permission Form and a signed/completed Release Form for each person appearing in your video.
8. Ownership of the underlying intellectual property of the project remains with the entrant, with the following exceptions:
  - a. Entrants grant Monmouth University and the School of Education the right to use the names, photographs, statements, quotes, testimonials, and essay/video submissions for advertising, publicity, and promotional purposes without further notification or further compensation.
  - b. Monmouth University and the School of Education maintains the right to reproduce, reprint, distribute, perform, display or exhibit the project for advertising, publicity, and promotional purposes on their website, at conferences or at any other venue.

Content must comply with all local and national laws of the country of origin and the United States

<b>Essay Guidelines</b>	<b>Video Guidelines</b>
Essays must be submitted in English only	All entries should be submitted in English; if entries are not in English they must include English subtitles.
All entries may be submitted as a Word doc.,	All entries must be a digital video.
Essay must focus on ONE of global challenges listed on the first page, as it relates to environmental sustainability.	Video must focus on ONE of global challenges listed on the first page, as the issue relates to environmental sustainability,
Entries must be no longer than 800 words.	The length of the video should not exceed 3 minutes, not including the title screen.
<p>All entries should begin with a title page that includes the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student writer’s name</li> <li>• School name</li> <li>• School city, state, country</li> <li>• Title of essay</li> <li>• Total word</li> </ul>	<p>All entries should begin with a 5 second full-screen “title screen” that includes the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Producer’s name</li> <li>• School name</li> <li>• School city, state, country</li> <li>• Title of video</li> <li>• Total running time (not including the 5 second title screen)</li> </ul>
All information presented in the essay must be cited, giving credit to the original source. Plagiarism of any kind will result in disqualification. You must submit a list of your sources, properly cited.	All information presented in the essay must be cited, giving credit to the original source. Plagiarism of any kind will result in disqualification. You must submit a list of your sources, properly cited.
Adults may assist with writing but are limited to verbal guidance on tasks like spelling and grammar. The essay content must be your own.	No professional assistance is allowed. Adults may assist with production but are limited to verbal guidance only. Adults are allowed to be actors or camera operators but not content contributors.