



Richmond Joint Engineers Council (RJEC)

2025 RJEC NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK ESSAY or VIDEO CONTEST

In celebration of National Engineers Week the Richmond Joint Engineers Council, RJEC, is conducting its Annual *Essay and/or Video Contest* for Greater Richmond Middle and High school students. RJEC is reaching out to area cities and counties in:

Richmond, Petersburg, Hopewell, Colonial Heights, Henrico, Chesterfield, Hanover, Goochland, Powhatan, Amelia, Dinwiddie, Prince George, Charles City and New Kent

The contest is intended to stimulate student interest in the professional field of engineering. This is an excellent opportunity for students to interact with a broad spectrum of the engineering community including future employers from the Greater Richmond area.

All essay and/or video contest prize winners and a guest will be invited to attend the Annual RJEC banquet held at The Jefferson Hotel on Wednesday, February 20, 2025. Prize winners will **be notified by February 7th** but will not know which place they won until it is announced at the banquet.

Judging: Entries will be judged by the RJEC Board for:

1. *Originality & Creativity*
2. *Accuracy*
3. *Relevance*

Prizes: 3 prize winners for each CONTEST (Written or Video):

- 1st * = **\$100**
- 2nd = **\$50**
- 3rd = **\$25**

* Notes: 1st Place only winning submissions will be presented at the banquet. The 1st place "Written Essay" contest winner will read their submission aloud at the banquet and the Video contest winner will have their production played.

STEP 1: Contest Eligibility

- Contest open to all students participating in middle and/or high school level courses at a public, private or a home school curriculum in the Greater Richmond Area listed above.

STEP 2: Contest Topic: (Student chooses type of engineer for topic)

- Research and learn what an engineer does in their daily course of work. For example students seek out and interviews a Civil or Electrical or Chemical or Nuclear or Computer or Mechanical Engineer and ask them what they do and how they do it in a day's work.

STEP 3: Contest Media: (Student chooses one media)

- **VISUAL Essay:** 3 to 4 minute Video (*MPEG-4, MPEG-3, .WMV, 3GP*)
- **WRITTEN Essay:** 500-word Microsoft Word Document (**.doc*)

STEP 4: Contest Submissions:

- Students submit their essay to their teacher; each teacher chooses their top three written essays and/or video submissions per class taught meaning multiple grades and courses allowed.
- The teacher then submits their student essays and/or video to the following email according to media type:

written_essay@rjec.org or **visual_essay@rjec.org**

Note: Video entries may be posted via **youtube.com**. If submission on **youtube.com**, then the title MUST include “RJEC19” in the title and a link sent to: visual_essay@rjec.org

Contest Rules include:

1. Student must be schooled at the middle or high school level in the following Richmond-Petersburg/Tri-cities area:

Richmond, Petersburg, Hopewell, Colonial Heights, Henrico, Chesterfield, Hanover, Goochland, Powhatan, Amelia, Dinwiddie, Prince George, Charles City, and New Kent

2. One entry allowed per student;
3. All essay work submitted must be the product of the student. No assistance should be used in the filming, editing, or research of the submission;
4. The sources of information, facts and figures used in the visual or written essay must be documented in a bibliography submitted with the written and/or video essay;

Note: The bibliography is not considered part of the 500-word count of the essay.

5. Written essay limited to 500 words, double-spaced on single-sided numbered pages with 1” margins using 12 point font.

Visual essay must not exceed 4 minutes in length - *If visual essay submitted on youtube.com, then the title MUST include “RJEC25” within the title and a link sent to: visual_essay@rjec.org*

6. All entries must be submitted by a teacher via email by the RJEC deadline, Jan 24, 2025;

Note: Three submissions maximum per teacher per class.

7. Attention teachers: entries must include the following items in the body of the email:

- *Title of the Essay and/or Video*
- *Student’s full name & grade*
- *School name, address and phone number*
- *Teacher’s name and contact information (email is preferred)*
- *Name of the class student learned and submitted entry e.g., chemistry, math, computer...*

Note: ONLY the TITLE appears in the written essay pages or in the video essay.

8. All submissions will be considered an open source.

To learn more about National Engineers’ Week to go www.eweek.org.

To learn more about RJEC go to <http://www.rjec.org/>.