

**PENNSYLVANIA JUNIOR HOLSTEIN ASSOCIATION  
ESSAY CONTEST**

**Rules and Regulations**

- 1) To be eligible to compete in the Essay Contest: The contestant must be a member of the Pennsylvania Junior Holstein Association.  
The contest is divided into three age divisions:  
Senior Division  
18-21 years of age as of January 1<sup>st</sup> in the year of competition.  
Intermediate Division  
14-17 years of age as of January 1<sup>st</sup> in the year of competition.  
Junior Division  
9-13 years of age as of January 1<sup>st</sup> in the year of competition.
  
- 2) **Contestants in the Essay Contest will be required to send a copy of their Essay to the State Holstein Office by January 1, 2025.**

**II. Subject**

Contestants may choose any subject pertaining to Holstein Cattle and the Dairy Industry. We have identified three (3) sample topics that can also be chosen by contestants to write their essay on. Topics include:

“An Essay about my favorite cow”

“Why I like living/working on a dairy farm”

“My favorite dairy product is...”

For subject matter we wish to encourage exploration and understanding of any and all entities of the dairy industries, emphasizing the Holstein's role. Current policies, affairs, and trends in the industry are suitable topics.

**III. Contest Rules and Limits**

In the Senior Division: Each essay shall be a maximum of 1,000 words.

In the Intermediate Division: Each essay shall be a maximum of 500 words.

In the Junior Division: Each essay a maximum of 300 words.

All essays must be typed using a 12 point font.

**IV. Method of Selecting Winner**

- 1) The Youth Committee will be in charge of the contest. Competent and impartial judges will be selected by the Committee to judge the contest.

**V. Awards**

Awards will be given to the top three individuals in each division.

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**ESSAY CONTEST**

**ENTRY FORM**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

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County\_\_\_\_\_

Age\_\_\_\_\_ Division\_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Essay Topic\_\_\_\_\_

By my signature I agree that I did all the research and writing of this essay on my own accord without help or assistance from anyone else.

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Signature of Contestant

**Essays are Due By January 1, 2025 to:**

Pennsylvania Holstein Association  
839 Benner Pike  
State College PA 16801  
activities@paholsteins.com

JUDGING CRITERIA  
PENNSYLVANIA JUNIOR HOLSTEIN ESSAY CONTEST

**1. CONTENT – 25 POINTS**

- Does the essay pertain to the subject matter of the Dairy Industry or Holstein Cattle
- Are the ideas and thoughts clearly expressed
- Is there enough information to support the ideas and conclusions

**2. ORGANIZATION – 25 POINTS**

- Is there a clear introduction, body and conclusion
- Does each paragraph have a topic sentence
- Is each paragraph logically developed with relevant details
- Were transitional devices used to help the movement between paragraphs

**3. STYLE – 25 POINTS**

- Is the essay easy to read and understand
- Is there complete sentence structure throughout the essay
- Were a variety of sentence patterns used in the essay

**4. CONVENTIONS – 25 POINTS**

- Correct punctuation used
- Correct capitalization used
- Correct spelling used
- Correct grammar used