

STUDENT CONTESTS

CONTESTS FOR STUDENTS

The primary educational aims of the schools and the needs and interests of their students must be the first consideration at all times when selecting contests for students.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF EDUCATIONALLY DESIRABLE CONTESTS

1. On a national basis, the schools should confine their participation to those national contests which are currently placed on the approved list published annually by the Committee on National Contests and Activities of the National Association of Secondary School Principals.
2. On a State and local basis, the contest or activity should be:
 - a. one that supplements and does not interfere with the regular school programs.
 - b. one that is beneficial to youth in educational, civic, social or ethical development.
 - c. one that makes it possible for individual students to work out contributions by their own efforts and does not invite dishonest collaboration.
 - d. one whose subject is not commercial, controversial, sectarian or concerned with propaganda. It must emphasize high moral standards, good citizenship, and intellectual competence.
 - e. one from which no contestant should be excluded because of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, sex, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability, or non-payment of entry fee. Discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedures.
 - f. one which does not place an undue burden on students, teachers, or the school, nor require frequent or lengthy absence of participants from the school.
 - g. one sponsored by an organization engaged in a creditable or acceptable enterprise regardless of kind or amount of prizes offered and must not use the contest or activity as a "front" for advertising a company name or product.
 - h. one in which the sponsoring organization must be engaged in an acceptable enterprise and the contest or activity being sponsored must be under good management, show evidence of good planning, and must fall within their legitimate concern.
 - i. unsupervised, promotional essay contests will not be approved. While high quality writing is desirable and should be encouraged, essay contests in general do little to promote good writing and all too often interfere with a sound educational program.

Legal Ref:

Cross Ref:

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