• The contest is open to all Connecticut students under the age of 21 who are enrolled in grades 9-12, or their equivalent, at an accredited high school, vocational-technical school or adult high school credit diploma program (collectively “schools”) located within the State of Connecticut (“Connecticut school”). The contest is also open to all Connecticut homeschooled students in grades equivalent to grades 9-12.

• All entries must be the student’s original work. Any passages paraphrased or quoted from other sources must be referenced in a “Work Cited” page. Failure to do so may result in the disqualification of the entry. Sources and reference materials are not limited to those provided by the Connecticut Bar Foundation James W. Cooper Fellows.

• Entries must be submitted through the auspices of the Connecticut school the student attends, with the exception of homeschooled students. Each teacher shall select no more than three entries per class (i.e., if a teacher teaches the same subject at two different class periods or the same one semester class in two different semesters, that teacher may submit up to six entries).

• Teachers of any subject may submit entries. There is no limit on the number of teachers who may submit entries from a single school. School counselors may submit no more than three entries per semester. There is no limit on the number of school counselors who may submit entries from a single school. Homeschooled students are exempt from this rule and may submit their entries to the Connecticut Bar Foundation (“Foundation”) directly. Each homeschooled student may only submit one entry.

• Entries should be approximately 1000 words in length, in electronic format, double-spaced, and paginated. No name or identifying references (school, teacher/counselor, grade level, age, etc.) may appear on the title page or anywhere in the essay. This is so that entries may be screened and judged anonymously, Each submission will be assigned an identification number by the Foundation.

• Entries must be emailed no later than February 21, 2020 to the Connecticut Bar Foundation at ctbf@cbf-1.org.

• All entries must be accompanied by the forms listed below. (Send the essay in the same email as a separate attachment. The essay itself should have NO identifying information):

  High School Students:
  1) Submittal Form (Form 1).
  2) Student Entry and Release Form (Form 2).
  3) Parent/Guardian Release Form (Form 3) if the entrant is under 18.

  Homeschooled Students:
  1) Home-Schooled Submittal Form (Form 1-H)
  2) Home-Schooled Student Entry and Release Form (Form 2-H)
  3) Parent/Guardian Release Form (Form 3) if the entrant is under 18.

  Contest winners will be announced mid to late May 2020.