



2018-2019 WHITTIER COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM SPONSORED BY **ATHENS SERVICES** AND **REPUBLIC SERVICES**

Scholarship Criteria and Essay Writing Details:

Theme:

- Environmental Sustainability

Deadline:

- Entries must be submitted by email to vsmith@cityofwhittier.org with Scholarship Program Entry in the subject line. The due date is May 10, 2018 and must be emailed by midnight.

Eligibility:

- The essay contest is open to college-bound graduating high school seniors who are residents of the City of Whittier regardless of the location of the high school attended. Unfortunately, students living in the unincorporated Los Angeles County areas of Whittier are not eligible

Scholarship Awards:

- Five (5) \$500 individual scholarships will be awarded to five recipients living in Athens' service area.
- Four (4) \$500 individual scholarships will be awarded to four recipients living in Republic's service area.

Writing Guidelines:

- Essays must be 400 to 500 words in length, typewritten and double-spaced in 12 point font. Facts and quotations should be appropriately cited either in the body of the essay or in footnotes. Entries must be original, unpublished essays written by the contestants.

Submission Guidelines:

- Please submit only one essay per student. Email entries to: vsmith@cityofwhittier.org. Include your essay in the body of the email and as an attached PDF document. Entries must include your full name, email address, home address, phone number, grade level, school name, and the name of your parent or legal guardian, in that specific order.

Selection of Scholarship Recipients:

- A panel of judges from each trash hauler will evaluate the essays from entrants in their respective service zones. Essays will be judged anonymously with no identifying information available to the judges. Essays will be evaluated based upon creativity, demonstrated passion for the environment, and a vision for the

future. Submissions will also be judged based upon writing standards set forth in *A Writer's Reference* required by most colleges and universities. Decisions by the judges are final.

Essay Topics:

(Students are challenged to answer any one of the following questions):

1. How can current and future technology be used to conserve natural resources and help the environment?
2. Discuss the idea of “zero waste”. Is it an idealistic dream or a realistic goal?
3. According to the USDA, food loss and waste in the United States accounts for approximately 31 percent – or 133 billion pounds – of the overall food supply available to retailers and consumers, and has far-reaching impacts on food security, resource conservation, and climate change. How can food security be achieved?
4. Environmental sustainability is a huge topic. Some of the global concerns are so large that they seem insurmountable. Describe small things individual people can do to live a more sustainable life. Identify environmentally unsustainable things people do on a daily basis and alternatives they could do instead.