

2017 Don't mess with Texas® Scholarship Contest

OFFICIAL APPLICATION

Applications must be received by online submission or postmarked by 5 p.m. (CST) May 5, 2017.

The 2017 Don't mess with Texas® Scholarship, in partnership with Keep Texas Beautiful, recognizes the achievements of high school seniors who have taken a leadership role to prevent litter in their school and/or community. Any Texas high school senior planning to pursue a two- or four-year degree at an accredited Texas college or university next year and currently attending public, private, or home school in Texas may apply. One \$6,000 scholarship and two \$2,000 scholarships will be awarded this June.

Please fill out each item in this form. Only applications that are fully completed will be accepted.

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Phone Number () _____ Email Address _____

Name of High School _____

School Counselor Name _____

School Counselor Phone Number _____

School Counselor Email Address _____

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

Where in Texas do you plan to attend college? _____

Proposed field of study _____

How did you find out about this scholarship?

Guidance Counselor/Your High School Don't mess with Texas Website Social Media

Other _____

Eligibility/Exclusions: Scholarship applicants must be current residents of Texas. Employees and their immediate families (spouses, parents, siblings, children, and each of their respective spouses or people living in same household of each) of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB), GDC Marketing & Ideation, iHeart Media, Q1 Media and other sponsors are not eligible to participate. By submitting the application, essay, and supporting documentation, you acknowledge and understand that the work will become the property of TxDOT/KTB upon submission. Furthermore, you grant permission to TxDOT/KTB to use the application, essay, and supporting documentation for any purpose associated with the Don't mess with Texas anti-litter campaign. No obligation or liability is assumed by TxDOT in connection with any scholarship. Don't mess with Texas® is a registered service mark and trademark owned by the Texas Department of Transportation.



ESSAY PROMPT

For over 30 years, Don't mess with Texas has reminded people to keep litter off Texas roads. Litter is defined as trash that is left on the ground in a public place or on a roadway rather than in a trash receptacle. The most commonly littered items are wrappers, packaging, cans, and cigarette butts. These trash items create an unsightly mess that is costly to clean up.

In 300 to 350 words, describe how your actions support the Don't mess with Texas litter prevention and beautification initiative. How did you identify a specific litter-related problem in your school or community? What **creative** and/or **sustainable** solution did you develop to address the problem of trash? What motivated you? How did you motivate others not to litter? You must include statistics and measurable results that show the overall impact of your effort. Include specifics such as number of hours, number of people or volunteers, amount of space or amount of trash collected.

You may submit a handwritten or typed essay along with this application. You may also provide up to three additional documents or photos that support your essay.

Winners may be asked to participate in a brief video interview describing their litter prevention project.

CERTIFICATION

In submitting this application, I certify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I give permission for my school counselor to be contacted as a reference if I am a finalist.

For verification purposes, please include the names and phone numbers of at least two adults (over the age of 18) who helped you and were a part of the efforts you describe in your application essay.

Name of Adult #1 _____

Phone Number for Adult #1 _____ Email _____

Name of Adult #2 _____

Phone Number for Adult #2 _____ Email _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Mail completed application to:

Don't mess with Texas® Scholarship

GDC Marketing & Ideation
219 E. Houston St., Suite 350
San Antonio, TX 78205

For more information or questions, please contact scholarships@dontmesswithtexas.org.

ESSAY TIPS

- Describe how you personally made a difference.
- Tell us what inspired you to help improve your community.
- Explain how your project made a sustainable impact and how it can grow in the future.
- Highlight the ideas that make your project unique.
- Don't mess with Texas reminds Texans to put trash in the can! If your project involves recycling, be sure to show how your efforts reduce trash and litter.

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