



New England
League of
Middle Schools

2022 NELMS/VE-JV Dream Job Essay Competition

Dear Teacher,

Competition Description

The Dream Job Essay Competition is a contest that challenges students to think about their dream job or career and write an essay about why they chose it. Prizes will be awarded to the top three winners and several honorable mentions will also be recognized. **The top three winners will have the opportunity to attend a “Meet & Greet” video conference and speak with a professional who works in the job or career of their dreams. All NELMS member school students are eligible and encouraged to participate in this exciting educational activity.**

Students will submit their essays to teachers for initial review. Each NELMS school will be able to submit its top essay [HERE](#).

Competition Objectives

Students will

- Identify a job or career path that they are passionate about.
- Reflect on why they are or will be qualified for their dream job or career.
- Demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills
- Connect to and speak with industry professionals in their identified job or career during the follow-up Career Day event.

Essay Details

Students will describe their dream job or career, why they chose it, and why they would be a good candidate for the position or pathway. Students will write a persuasive essay explaining why they would be the perfect fit for their chosen job or career. Students should address the following questions in their essay:

- What skills and/or qualifications are required for their dream job or career?
- What skills and/or qualifications do they currently have that would be a foundation for their dream job or career?
- What steps do they need to take to obtain the skills/qualifications that are necessary?
- Why is this their intended career? What makes it special?
- Out of all the people who may be interested in this particular career, what makes them stand out?
- What benefits will they receive from this particular career? (i.e., make a difference in the world, be able to travel, make a lot of money, become famous, etc.)?

Essay Format:

- All students are invited to participate in the competition.
- Teachers will be provided with a student instruction sheet and rubric.
- Essays should:
 - not exceed **500 words**.
 - be **double spaced** and use a **12 pt. Times New Roman** font.
 - be saved as a **PDF** before being submitted to you.
 - make sure you have the **following information** from your student:
 - full name
 - grade level
 - email address (please do not use the school email address as communications from outside organizations will be blocked)
- Each NELMS School will be allowed to submit **one essay per school** for judging.
- You will submit the selected essay via JotForm (<https://form.jotform.com/221094691444154>)

Submission Deadline

- **May 6, 2022**

Meet and Greet

- The winning students will be invited to attend a one-on-one “meet and greet” Zoom call with an industry expert in their chosen career field.

Judges

A panel of judges selected by Virtual Enterprises will review the submitted essays and select the winners from each group based on the rubric provided.

Winner Notification

Winning students and their teachers will be notified by email by **May 13, 2022**

Questions

E-mail Will Wilson at wwilson@veinternational.org or Jeff Rodman at jrodman@nelms.org



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2022 NELMS/VE-JV Dream Job Essay Competition

Dear Student,

Competition Description

The Dream Job Essay Competition is a contest that challenges you to think about your dream job or career and write an essay about why you chose it. The top essay winners will have the opportunity to attend a video conference and speak one on one with a professional who works in the job or career of their dream.

You will submit your essay to your teacher for initial review.

Essay Details

Describe your dream job or career and why you would be a good candidate for the position or pathway. Using knowledge you've gained through your studies, write a persuasive essay explaining why you would be the perfect fit for the job or career.

You should address the following questions in your essay:

- What skills and/or qualifications are required for your dream job or career?
- What skills and/or qualifications do you currently have that would be a foundation for your dream job or career?
- What steps do you need to take to obtain the skills/qualifications that are necessary?
- Why is this your intended career? What makes it special for you?
- Out of all the people who may be interested in this particular career, what makes you stand out?
- What benefits will you receive from this particular career? (Examples: make a difference in the world, be able to travel, make a lot of money, become famous, etc.)?

Essay Format

- Essays should:
 - not exceed **500 words**.
 - be **double spaced** and use a **12 pt. Times New Roman** font.
 - be saved as a **PDF** and submitted to your teacher.
 - make sure your teacher has the **following information**:
 - full name
 - grade level
 - email address (please do not use your school email address as communications from outside organizations will be blocked)
 - your teacher will then submit the essay via a JotForm link.

Submission Deadline

- **May 6, 2022**

Prizes and Follow-up YBS Career Day Event

Each winning student will receive the following:

- **An opportunity to have a one-on-one meeting with an industry expert identified in their essay.**

2022 NELMS/VE-JV Dream Job Essay Competition Rubric

Category	5 Stars	4 Stars	3 Stars	2 Stars	1 Star
<p><u>Content</u> <i>The extent to which the response shows understanding of chosen job or career. In addition, the extent to which the response shows a clear understanding of the job or career's role and responsibilities and the student's ability to connect their personal characteristics to the job or career they are writing about.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive understanding and analysis of the job or career Makes clear connections between personal qualifications and selected job or career Develops ideas clearly and fully, making effective use of a wide range of relevant and specific details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average understanding and analysis of the job or career Makes basic connection between personal qualifications and the job or career Develops ideas making use of a wide range of relevant and specific details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited understanding of the job or career Minimal connections between personal qualifications and the job or career Attempts to develop ideas, but does not provide sufficient examples 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal to no understanding of the job or career Makes no connections between qualifications and the job or career Does not develop ideas sufficiently or provide examples 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria missing or not met.
<p><u>Persuasion</u> <i>The extent to which the response uses specific and relevant supporting examples to prove student is the best candidate for the job or career</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explains job or career qualifications clearly and fully, providing multiple details and examples to demonstrate ideal candidate for the role 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outlines job or career qualifications clearly using details and examples but does not strongly persuade the reader as to why student is the best candidate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discusses qualifications minimally with limited examples or references. Little evidence to back up statements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal development of qualifications with no evidence or persuasion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria missing or not met.
<p><u>Organization</u> <i>The extent to which the response exhibits direction, focus, structure and an appropriate thesis statement.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistent, clear and appropriate focus Logical and coherent structure throughout response Strong, well-developed thesis statement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistent, clear, and appropriate focus Clear structure but lacks overall focus Basic thesis statement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes but fails to maintain a general focus Very little structure Unfocused thesis statement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very little focus Illogical structure No thesis statement or failure to develop one 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria missing or not met.

2022 NELMS/VE-JV Dream Job Essay Competition Rubric

<p>Language <i>The extent to which the response reveals an awareness of audience and purpose through effective use of words, sentence structure and sentence variety.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stylistically sophisticated Strong awareness of audience and purpose Uses language that is fluent and original Great use of simple and complex sentence structure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General awareness of audience and purpose Some use of sentence variety Basic use of language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of understanding of audience and purpose Little use of sentence variety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal to no awareness of audience and purpose Incoherent or inappropriate use of language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria missing or not met.
<p>Conventions <i>The extent to which the response exhibits correct spelling, punctuation, paragraphing, capitalization, grammar and usage.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate use of conventions with essentially no errors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Control of conventions with some errors that do not interfere with the integrity of the essay 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic control of conventions with significant errors that interfere with comprehension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No control of conventions Unclear language use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria missing or not met.

Total: /25