

Prolife Essay Scholarship 2025

The Award:

Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund will award a non-renewable \$500 scholarship to one prolife high school senior in Michigan. The award may be used towards tuition, books, and/or college supplies.

Eligibility:

Any Michigan student who is a high school senior for the Fall, or Winter/Spring semesters of the 2024/2025 school year.

Selection:

Selection criteria include the student's application and the essay. Applications and essays will be judged by each Right to Life of Michigan affiliate, and then one student from each affiliate will be nominated to a state committee for consideration. Affiliates must send the chosen application and essay to the State Office, and it must be postmarked no later than **Wednesday, April 30, 2025**. The winner will be selected by the state committee. An excerpt of the winning essay will appear in the Right to Life of Michigan News and on our website, rtl.org.

Requirements:

400-500 words

Prompt: **Reflect on areas where you believe your character has grown throughout your journey as a young prolife advocate and how this influences your future goals.**

All applications and essays must be submitted to the local affiliate. If you are unsure of your local affiliate, contact the state office at migenleads@rtl.org.



Application

Name:

Address:

City:

Zip Code:

Phone/email:

RLM Affiliate:

School:

Educational institution you plan on attending:

Submit to your local affiliate:

(1) The application

(2) 400-500 word essay **reflecting on areas where you believe your character has grown throughout your journey as a young prolife advocate and how this influences your future goals.**

I certify that this information is true, complete and accurate. I authorize the release of this information to verify this application and for publication if chosen as the Prolife Essay Scholarship winner.

Signature:

Date:

Printed Name:



Planning and Promoting the Prolife Essay Scholarship

Important Things to Know

- This essay scholarship is only for high school seniors.
- The essay must be 500 words or more, typed.
- If there is no active affiliate in the student's county, their application and essay are sent directly to migenleads@rtl.org. From these essays, one essay per county will be chosen to compete in the state contest.
- First-place essays must be submitted to the state office by **Wednesday, April 30, 2025**, along with the student's application.
- The scoring sheet included must be used to ensure fair opportunity. Please turn in the scoring sheet to the State Office with the student's application and essay.

Contest Planning Points

- Announce the essay scholarship to your youth and students for life groups as soon as possible. Set a deadline for their application submission and make sure any interested students know about it.
- You can choose a committee to decide on a nomination. An odd number of members is best to break any ties. Committee members should generally not be immediate relatives of any students who applied. Only one essay can be sent to the state office per affiliate.
- Your affiliate does not have to give the student an award for winning at the local level. If you wish to, we recommend a gift basket and a certificate.

Promoting the Prolife Essay Scholarship

1. Appoint a volunteer in your affiliate to oversee the Prolife Essay Scholarship. It can be a great way to get another member actively involved in your group. This volunteer can announce the contest to youth, promote it, and help recruit committee members to decide on a nomination.
2. Announce the contest early. High school seniors are often looking for scholarship contests in January until the end of the school year.
3. Develop a flyer announcing the contest. Post it in schools, churches and areas/businesses where youth spend time. Make sure to include the deadline and contact information on any materials promoting the contest.
4. Many churches have youth group leaders or youth pastors.
5. Contact home-school groups. Let the parents know of the contest, and ask to have information about the Youth Award included in a home-school network email.
6. Inform parents and others in your affiliate and personal networks. College is not getting any cheaper, and many parents pay for some or all of their child's tuition and books.

If you have any questions about the Prolife Essay Scholarship, you can contact the MiGen Leads Coordinator at (616) 532-2300, or by email at migenleads@rtl.org.

Scoring Sheet

Prompt: Reflect on areas where you believe your character has grown throughout your journey as a young prolife advocate and how this influences your future goals.

Please circle each selection per criteria and put the total points in the bottom right. Turn this sheet into the State Office with the student's essay and application.

Criteria	4	3	2	1
Ideas/Content	Makes a clear reflection in a creative way and shows understanding and insights of prolife topics. Shows a strong plan of development and originality. Includes all areas of prompt.	Reflection is clear and mostly on topic. The reflection is clear but could use a little more originality and creativity. Includes all areas of prompt.	Reflection is somewhat clear but lacks creative and independent thought.	Reflection is not clear and has drawn out thoughts on various details that do not connect. Prolife issues are not shown.
Coherence/ Organization	Provides organizing structure that includes paragraphs that creatively engage the reader, use transitions, and move toward a powerful conclusion.	Provides a mostly organized structure that includes paragraphs that engage the reader and moves toward a conclusion.	Provides a structure with very few paragraphs that may lack engagement, transitions, or a conclusion.	Provides no organizing structure.
Voice	Writing has a clear sense of audience. Writing is impressive, engaging and/or sincere.	Writing shows a good tone and sense of audience, it is beginning to be impressive and engaging.	Writing shows weak or missing sense of audience and tone.	Writing shows no tones or sense of an audience.
Sentence Fluency	Sentences flow. Sentence length, structure and complexity is varied.	Sentences flow. Sentence structure has variety.	Sentences have run-ons or are confusing.	Sentences are incomplete and/or unclear.
Word Choice	Word choice is specific, purposeful, and dynamic throughout the essay. Word count is met.	Word choice is specific and somewhat varied throughout essay. Word count is met.	Word choice is often unspecific, and generic. Below or over the word count.	Word choice is excessively repetitive and generic. Below or over the word count.
Conventions	The essay is free from grammatical or mechanical errors.	Grammatical or mechanical errors exist, but not enough to distract from reading.	Grammatical or mechanical errors somewhat distract from reading.	Paper is full of grammatical and mechanical errors.