

RLM Outstanding ProLife Youth Award 2023

The Award:

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

Eligibility:

Any Michigan student who is a high school senior for the Fall, Winter or Spring semesters of the 2022/2023 school year.

Selection:

Selection criteria include the student's application, essay and a list of his/her participation in prolife activities. 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 **Friday, March 24, 2023**. 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, www.rtl.org.

Requirements:

The application and essay must be submitted to the local affiliate by the student. In addition to the short application, students must also submit a 300-400 word essay about what this next generation can do to promote a positive prolife message. 40% of the score is based on the essay, which will be judged on content, grammar and originality. 60% of the score is based on prolife activities and involvement, which must include active help with the RLM affiliate and/or state organization and will be judged on a variety of activities, demonstrated leadership and self-motivation. We are requiring a hardcopy of the registration in order to ensure that no contestant's submission is lost or blocked by an email filter.

APPLICATION

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____

RLM Affiliate: _____ School: _____

Educational institution you plan on attending: _____

Use separate sheets for: (1) 300-400 word essay on what this generation can do to promote a positive prolife message.

(2) A description of you prolife involvement and activities, including work in your local affiliate and/or Right to Life of Michigan.

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 award winner.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____



Planning and Promoting the Youth Award

Contest Deadline and Planning Points

- Announce the award 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 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 an immediate relative of any students that applied.
- Submit your nomination for the 2023 Youth Award to the State Office by Friday, March 24, 2024.

Promoting the Youth Award

1. Appoint a volunteer in your affiliate to oversee the Award. 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. This volunteer can also encourage more active youth involvement in your affiliate while promoting the contest.
2. Announce the contest early. Since most of the requirements are based on prolife activity and involvement, you can create an incentive for prolife students to become prolife volunteers. One of the requirements is that their involvement must include some active help with an affiliate (or state organization), so this is an excellent opportunity to gain active volunteers.
3. Contact local teachers. Teachers that typically send contestants if you sponsor an oratory contest are good places to start. Some high schools have community service requirements, so this is an opportunity to entice students to your programs with an added bonus.
4. 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.
5. Many churches have youth group leaders or youth pastors. Contact the leaders/pastors and explain the worth of volunteering with your affiliate. Ask them to announce it at their meetings or make volunteering with your affiliate a regular activity.
6. Contact home-school groups. Many home-school students typically have local networks or facilities for extra-curricular activities. Let the parents know of the contest, and ask to have information about the Youth Award included in a home-school network email.
7. 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. Many would be happy to find something positive their child can become involved in, and perhaps help pay for a semester of books or a month's meal plan along the way.

If you have any questions about the Youth Award, you can contact Grace Hemmeke at the Right to Life of Michigan State Office at (616)532-2300, or by email at ghemmeke@rtl.org