

Clean Air Choice® Biodiesel Scholarship Contest Rules

Sponsored by Minnesota soybean farmers and administered by the American Lung Association in Minnesota

Vehicle exhaust is the largest source of air pollution in Minnesota. One source of this pollution is diesel engines, which consume approximately 900 million gallons of fuel every year in Minnesota and can emit significantly more sooty particles than gasoline engines. To address this issue, Minnesota became the first state in the nation to require nearly all of the diesel fuel sold here to contain biodiesel, a cleaner-burning alternative fuel made and sold close to home. Diesel fuel sold in Minnesota now contains a 10 percent blend of biodiesel in the warm weather months, and a five percent blend in the cold months. Using higher blends of biodiesel helps to clear the air and protect lung health, which is why the American Lung Association in Minnesota supports biodiesel as a Clean Air Choice®.

The Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council sponsors the annual Biodiesel Scholarship contest to help raise awareness of this important and emerging alternative fuel in our state.

This year's scholarship contest includes two opportunities for students:

- Biodiesel Essay Contest
- Biodiesel Video Contest

Eligibility: All high school seniors in Minnesota with plans to attend postsecondary education are eligible to submit entries to the Clean Air Choice® Biodiesel Scholarship contest.

Due: All entries must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 7, 2017 to the American Lung Association in Minnesota. Entries received after this deadline will not be accepted. All entries become the property of American Lung Association in Minnesota and cannot be returned.

Prizes: Two scholarships will be awarded. First place will receive a \$1,000 scholarship; second place will receive a \$500 scholarship. To receive the scholarships, winners will be required to complete a W-9 Form and sign a waiver allowing ALAMN to use the essay/video for noncommercial purposes and to publicize the winning entries.

Winner notification: Winners will be notified no later than May 31, 2017. A news release will be submitted to area newspapers and CleanAirChoice.org will highlight the winning entries.

Questions? Contact Robert Moffitt at Robert.Moffitt@lung.org or call (651)-268-7603.

Essay Contest Rules

Essay word limit: 1,000 words

Topics: Create your own biodiesel topic or choose one of following:

- 1) Biodiesel's benefits to Minnesota
- 2) Expanding biodiesel's use: opportunities and challenges
- 3) How can you impact biodiesel use in your area

Judging criteria: All entries will be judged on the following criteria:

- Accuracy of information cited in essay
- Demonstrating a thorough understanding of biodiesel and its uses
- Creative thinking and original ideas on biodiesel
- Spelling, grammar and punctuation

Submitting: Mailed and emailed entries must include the entry form. Please do not include your name or school name on your essay to ensure fairness in judging. Online entries are preferred.

- **Email:** To submit via email, attach the essay (in MS Word or PDF format) and entry form to the email and send to: Robert.Moffitt@lung.org
- **Mail:** 490 Concordia Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55103 (Attn: Biodiesel Essay Contest)

Video Contest Rules

Video Length: Submissions must be between 30 seconds and 3 minutes in length.

Topics: The topic must include some aspect or angle on biodiesel. Any topic directly connected to biodiesel is fair game, including its history, where to buy it, how it is made, its benefits, and who can use it. Videos with strong local angles are encouraged.

Submitting: Videos must be submitted using the website form found at CleanAirChoice.org.

By submitting a video you acknowledge that you have permission from all individuals featured in the video to be included. All material should be your own, original material. Please follow [YouTube's copyright guidelines](#).

Videos must be uploaded to YouTube.com and then submitted to the contest using the video URL. Videos must be public on YouTube and must remain active on the user's account for at least one year. [Learn more about how to upload to YouTube.](#)

Each participant may submit one video.

Tips on Winning Videos:

Our judges enjoy submissions that are creative, engaging, and educational. Creativity counts, so think of ways to make a video that will stand out.

These videos are to promote the benefits of biodiesel, so do a little research to learn the benefits of fueling with a home grown fuel. Videos with a strong Minnesota focus are preferred.

You can use animation, photos, video clips, music video spoofs, or whatever you want in your video. Just be certain you have permission from the people and places filmed before you submit.