



# Jackson County Farm Bureau®

## The Voice of Agriculture®

### NATIONAL AG DAY ESSAY CONTEST

Celebrating National Ag Day, Jackson County Farm Bureau Association announces a county-wide essay contest for 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who are residents of Jackson County. In keeping with the National Ag Day theme, the topic shall be:

#### **Agriculture: Why Food Security Equals National Security**

Students across the county are invited to enter the National Ag Day essay contest, sponsored by the Jackson County Farm Bureau Association. We are following the National Ag Day essay contest theme:

#### **“Agriculture: Why Food Security Equals National Security”**

Our objective is to celebrate agriculture and to help growers and consumers alike understand how farmers and the companies serving them can and do produce abundant, healthy, nutritious, and safe food. The farmers, while caring and tending for land and livestock, are leading the way in preservation for the health of our planet and in protection for the health of our families.

Writers are encouraged to support their position with facts. Don't just tell a story or offer opinion. As you prepare your entry, consider the following:

- Address the future of agriculture and its impact on society, environment, technology, and economy.
- Discuss innovative farming practices, sustainability, technological advancements, challenges faced by farmers, or any other relevant topic related to food security in relation to national security.
- Participants should discuss measures taken by farmers and ranchers, food processing and distributing companies to ensure the safety of food, while also preserving the integrity of the planet. Participants should also discuss how food security impacts the security of our nation.

The top three winning essays will be awarded:

- \$300 for 1<sup>st</sup> place
- \$200 for 2<sup>nd</sup> place
- \$100 for 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

The National Essay Contest is also going on now. For students interested in entering both contests, the National Essay contest information and rules can be found at <https://www.agday.org/essay-contest>. The national deadline is February 7 and is by video submission only.

**The Jackson County Essay Contest deadline is February 21 by written submission only.**

## General Rules

(The following rules govern the submission of your written essay for the **county-wide** National Ag Day Essay Contest only. If you are interested in entering the nation-wide contest, see <https://www.agday.org/essay-contest>.)

Contestants must compose an original written essay with limited guidance from adults, teachers or agricultural industry professionals. *Interviews* with industry professionals **are** acceptable research; input beyond research is unacceptable.

Jackson County Farm Bureau Association will have the right to publish or otherwise duplicate any essay entered in the contest, along with the author's name, without payment to the author.

**All entries must be received at Jackson County Farm Bureau Association (521 Arizona Avenue, P. O. Box 1005, Holton, KS 66436) by midnight CST, Friday, February 21, 2025.**

Essays may be dropped off in person, mailed to the address above, or emailed to [jacksonfb@kfb.org](mailto:jacksonfb@kfb.org)

The contest is open to students in grades 9 through 12 in the 2024-2025 school year. Contestants must be **residents** of Jackson County but may attend school outside the county.

Each entry must begin with a title page containing:

- official topic, " **Agriculture: Why Food Security Equals National Security**
- number of words
- writer's name
- e-mail address
- mailing address
- phone number
- date of birth
- school name and grade
- Parent or Legal Guardian's Name

Failure to provide a cover page with all contact information will result in disqualification.

Essays must be **typed, double-spaced Times New Roman 12 pt font.**

Essays must contain **1,000 words or less**. Every word of the essay is counted. The word count does **not** include the bibliography, footnotes identifying non-original material or the cover page.

Each page of the essay must be numbered, starting with the first page of the essay, **not** the title page. The numbers must be placed at the bottom right.

Any quotation or copyrighted materials used in the essay must be properly identified using a bibliography and footnotes or proper citation. **Failure to identify non-original material will result in disqualification.**

Please choose one method of submitting your essay: either by hand-delivery or send by U.S. mail or send by e-mail. Essays must be **received** by midnight CST, *February 21, 2025*. If the essay is mailed by USPS, ensure it is deposited in the mail early enough in the week (*probably* by no later than the preceding Friday, February 14 morning) to arrive by Friday, February 21, 2025.

Essays may be mailed by USPS to:  
**Jackson County Farm Bureau Association**  
**P. O. Box 1005**  
**Holton, KS 66436**

Essays may be hand delivered to:  
**Jackson County Farm Bureau Association**  
**521 Arizona Avenue**  
**Holton, KS 66436**  
(Office Hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday)

Essays may be emailed to:  
[jacksonfb@kfb.org](mailto:jacksonfb@kfb.org)

**If you provide your essay via a link to your Google Drive, please ensure that [donnaashcraft.farmbureau@gmail.com](mailto:donnaashcraft.farmbureau@gmail.com) and [jacksonfb@kfb.org](mailto:jacksonfb@kfb.org) has permission to access the essay.**

Failure to adhere to the rules may result in disqualification at the discretion of the judges.

A Sample title page follows:

# **Agriculture: Why Food Security Equals National Security**

1,000 words

Jane Smith

jane.smith@email.com

123 Anywhere Street  
Anytown, Kansas 00000

(555) 555-5555

01/01/2007

My High School  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Parents: John and Jill Smith