VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

VFW PATRIOT'S PEN

WRITTEN ESSAY COMPETITION

$5,000

NATIONAL FIRST-PLACE GRAND PRIZE

Over **$55,000** awarded in national prizes and scholarships every year!

PP WINNER 2025

2026-2027 THEME *"What a Veteran Taught Me About America"*

ELIGIBILITY

Open to students in grades 6–8 enrolled in a public, private, parochial school, or home-study program in the U.S. and its territories.

FORMAT

Write a 300-to-400 word essay (+/– 5 words) in English on this year's theme.

- ✓ No color or graphics
- ✓ No personal identifiers in the essay
- ✓ Entry form is the cover sheet

Submit to your local VFW Post.

PRIZES

Awarded at the Post, District, State and national levels. State winners share in $55,000 of national awards. National winners receive at least $500, with a $5,000 first-place national award.

DEADLINE

All entries must be submitted to your local VFW Post by

OCTOBER 31, 2026

SCAN TO ENTER

YOUR LOCAL POST

POST 12101

ENTRY FORM & DETAILS: https://bit.ly/3dYA6wr