



**California Special
Districts Association**
Districts Stronger Together

STUDENT VIDEO CONTEST OFFICIAL ENTRY RULES AND CRITERIA

BY SUBMITTING A STUDENT VIDEO CONTEST APPLICATION YOU ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS. CSDA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE THE TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND RULES OF THIS AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH THE CONTEST IS OFFERED.

ELIGIBILITY

The Districts Make the Difference Student Video Contest (“Contest”) is open to California residents attending or planning to attend high school, college or trade school at the time of entry. This includes public, private, and charter schools as well as homeschooling. The following individuals are not eligible: employees, contractors, directors, and officers of the California Special Districts Association (“CSDA”), and their relatives; employees (including part-time, seasonal, or internship), contractors, officers, directors, or trustees of any independent special district, as defined by California Government Code Section 56044, or dependent special district, as defined by California Government Code Section 56032.5. Limit one entry per applicant or team.

To be eligible for the Contest, applicants must submit a video of no more than **ninety (90) seconds** in length and in compliance with the Contest requirements and criteria. By submitting a video to the Contest, you give CSDA permission to share, reproduce, or exhibit the video without restriction, and without notification or compensation. Uses include but are not limited to: sharing with partner organizations, including in future projects and reports, sharing with federal, state, and local governments, promoting future contests, and media outreach.

Where available, a submission to the Contest includes automatic entry to your county’s special districts association (“Local Chapter”) student video contest, subject to the rules and requirements of the Local Chapter. Entry of submissions is limited to the Contest and up to one (1) Local Chapter contest per year. Entry to a Local Chapter video contest is strictly limited to the Local Chapter associated with the county of your principal residence, if available. CSDA is not responsible for the administration or operation of any Local Chapter video contest.

CONTEST REQUIREMENTS

There is no fee to participate. Violation of any Contest requirements will result in disqualification. By making a submission to the Contest you certify that you have full rights and authority to submit your video for consideration in the Contest. All entries must be in compliance with copyright law in order to be eligible for the Contest. You must obtain all the necessary rights, including music rights, consents, authorizations, and licenses for any and all copyright protected material included in your video. You must also obtain permission to use the image, likeness, or audio recording of any individual appearing in your video submission.

All entries become the property of CSDA and will not be returned. Participation in the Contest authorizes the reproduction, copyright, exhibition, broadcast, and/or distribution of the video submitted, or any other photography, videotape footage, or likeness of the video without limitation.



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If a submission is not primarily in English, then English captions must be provided. The video submitted must be the original work of the applicant(s), and may not contain the work, including the intellectual property, of others without express written consent. *Plagiarism is strictly prohibited and will result in disqualification.*

Your video must not contain: (i) racist, sexist, or other offensive remarks, (ii) nudity or sexual content, (iii) promotion of drug use, underage drinking, or other illegal behavior, or (iv) hate speech, violence, slanderous or libelous claims, or any other actionable offenses. Your video must not (i) infringe any rights of publicity or privacy, or intellectual property rights, including any music-related rights, (ii) be defamatory or indecent, or (iii) violate any applicable laws.

No videos may be published prior to the conclusion of the Contest, without prior consent from CSDA. If CSDA determines that your video was published before the Contest has concluded without prior consent, you may be disqualified.

Participation is voluntary and participants are responsible for ensuring that the production of their video does not violate any local, state, or federal laws. CSDA is not responsible for any unlawful or negligent activity that participants undertake during video production. By entering the Contest, you agree to defend, release, and hold harmless CSDA and its agents from and against any claims, action or liability for injury, loss or damage of any kind resulting from your participation in the Contest or from the acceptance or use of any prize awarded.

CONTEST SCHEDULE:

The contest will be open for submissions between 8:00 a.m. PST on May 19 and 5:00 p.m. PST on September 30 (“Contest Period”).

TO ENTER

To enter the Contest, visit <http://www.districtsmakethedifference.org> (“Website”) during the Contest Period for directions. Contest entries submitted on behalf of more than one person (“team”) must designate one team member as the lead applicant responsible for completing the online application. All other team members must each complete a Supplemental Student Video Contest Application (which can be found on the website), sign, and email a copy to info@districtsmakethedifference.org.

Before uploading the video submission, you will be required to certify that you have read and agreed to these Official Rules. Submissions that do not include all required information or do not adhere to the Official Rules shall not be valid and are subject to disqualification. CSDA may, at its sole discretion, remove, delete or forfeit submissions it deems inappropriate or otherwise non-compliant.

SELECTION OF WINNERS

Submissions for the Contest will be accepted on an ongoing basis until September 30. Up to five finalists will be selected based on judging criteria set out below at “SELECTION CRITERIA” and posted to www.DistrictsMakeTheDifference.org where public voting will determine the final winners. Public voting will take place between October 5 and November 5. The finalists will be posted to the Districts Make the Difference YouTube Page and various social media outlets starting on or around October 5.

www.DistrictsMakeTheDifference.org/video-contest



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Following the close of the public voting period on November 5, the following will be chosen based on the voting results: one first prize winner, one second prize winner, and one third prize winner.

All finalist submissions are subject to verification, including, without limitation, verification of eligibility, compliance with these Official Rules and all other applicable release forms. The decision of the judges will be final and binding in all matters, and all applicants agree to accept the final decision of the judges and results of the public vote. The finalists shall be selected without regard to race, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, employment status or any other factor which could constitute unfair or illegal discrimination.

WINNER NOTIFICATION

Winners will be notified on or around November 10 by telephone, mail, or email. If attempted notification is returned as undeliverable, if Finalist cannot be verified, or if Finalist is otherwise unable to accept prize, prize will be forfeited and may be awarded to an alternate Finalist, at CSDA’s discretion.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Contest videos should focus on highlighting one or more of the following areas:

- A unique program, service or infrastructure project that a special district is currently promoting.
- How an individual, a group of individuals, or a community is affected by special districts.
- How special districts are formed and how they are able to provide essential services to millions of Californians.

Video Contest Preliminary Selection Criteria

Accuracy & Effectiveness	The facts presented in the video are accurate and not misleading. The video increases understanding and awareness of special districts.	25
Creativity & Originality	The video incorporates concepts, style, or media that are original and creative. The video has the ability to engage the audience.	25
Production Quality	The video’s editing and flow are of a high quality. The audio is clear and understandable.	25
Entertainment Value	The video’s story or concepts are interesting and understandable.	25
TOTAL		100

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS



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A video file must be submitted – the video file must be no more than ninety (90) seconds in length. The video file size should be kept at or under 200 MB for quicker upload/encoding time. No submission larger than 500MB will be accepted.

FINALIST PRIZES

The prizes shall be listed on the Districts Make the Difference website and may be subject to alteration without notification.

- 1st Place- \$2,000 scholarship
- 2nd Place- \$1,000 scholarship
- 3rd Place- \$500 scholarship

If any selected winner entered the Contest with one or more team members, the prize will be split equally between all team members as indicated by the name(s) on the application form. The individual identified as the lead applicant for the selected winner is responsible for ensuring all team members receive their respective share of any prize awarded. All applicable taxes are the responsibility of the winners. Winners must execute final releases and information requests prior to payment of the awards. Failure to do so will void the award.

***NEW IN 2020* - TEACHER RECOGNITION**

In appreciation of California teachers and the integral work they do to support students throughout the state, CSDA is awarding a prize to three California teachers, instructors, professors, or advisors to support their classroom needs, or to be utilized in support of distance learning provided by the teacher to students.

Upon selection of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place winners, CSDA will award a **\$500 prize** to the teacher or instructor nominated by each respective winner on their application submission. To be eligible, the individual nominated must be affiliated with a California high school, college, or trade school at the time of entry. If no teacher is nominated or CSDA is unable to deliver the Teacher Recognition prize to the individual nominated by a student video contest winner, CSDA may instead award the prize to alternative recipient. All applicable taxes are the responsibility of the nominated teacher. The nominated teacher must execute final releases and information requests at the request of CSDA prior to payment of the award. Failure to do so will void the award. Subject to alteration without notification.