



Kathy Speaker MacNett, Treasurer
320 Market Street, Suite 600W
Harrisburg, PA 17101
Phone: 717-233-1000
www.finneganfoundation.org

THE JAMES A. FINNEGAN FELLOWSHIP FOUNDATION 2022 ESSAY CONTEST

Please provide the following Required Documents:

1. **TRANSCRIPT.** A grade transcript, certified by the registrar or other appropriate administrative official in your college or university. It should have background information explaining grade symbols and, if possible, indicating relative class standing of the applicant. From time to time, the Judges will rely upon formatted uncertified transcripts knowing that the applicant does not control the timing from the Registrar's office.
2. **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES STATEMENT.** A statement describing the applicant's participation in extra-curricular activities or civic activities. It may be in narrative or outline form. Please limit to 500 words in length.
3. **REASON FOR APPLYING STATEMENT.** A statement describing the applicant's reason for applying for the essay contest. Again, limit to 500 words in length.
4. **LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION.** The number of letters of recommendation is not as important as their content and the opportunity which the faculty member, administrative official or community leader has had to evaluate the applicant's ability, performance, and leadership potential.
5. **APPLICATION FORM.** Completed Application Form (see page 2)
6. **ESSAY.** (Question on last page).
 - a. Should be at least 1,500 words in length but generally no more than 2,500
 - b. Should be 12-point Times New Roman, double spaced
 - c. Should be consecutively page numbered
 - d. Should include a cover sheet with the name of the applicant and the name of his/her educational institution
 - e. Should NOT include the name of applicant or educational institution anywhere on the essay
 - f. Should be designed to serve as an answer to the question
 - g. Must have a bibliography
 - h. Must be electronically transmitted no later than 11:59 PM on January 28, 2022 or POSTMARKED no later than January 28, 2022. Please mail the application to Kathy Speaker MacNett, Treasurer, 320 Market Street, Suite 600W, Harrisburg, PA 17101 or submit via email to FinneganEssayContest@gmail.com
7. **JUDGING.** Judges will assess applicants on content as well as their ability to follow standard directions, grammar and proof-reading.



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THE JAMES A. FINNEGAN FELLOWSHIP FOUNDATION
2022 ESSAY CONTEST APPLICATION

Name of Applicant: _____

Address of Applicant:

Present: _____

Permanent: _____

E-mail: _____

Telephone Numbers: Present: (____) _____ Permanent: (____) _____

College or University Attending:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Major Study: _____ Minor Study: _____

Applicant certifies that he/she is:

1. A resident of Pennsylvania attending an accredited college or university at the time the essay is submitted, here or elsewhere; OR A non-resident student attending an accredited Pennsylvania college or university at the time the essay is submitted.
2. An undergraduate student working toward a baccalaureate degree to be obtained (year) _____.
3. Not a previous winner of a James A. Finnegan Fellowship internship.
4. Available to serve an internship in Harrisburg, PA for a minimum of 8 weeks and a maximum of 10 weeks beginning on or about the last week of May 2022 and concluding on or about the last week in August 2022. Due to COVID-19, Internships are expected but cannot be guaranteed and if available, they may or may not be in person or remote.
5. Eligible to work in the United States.

Signature: _____

Date: _____



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THE JAMES A. FINNEGAN FELLOWSHIP FOUNDATION
2022 ESSAY QUESTION

REDISTRICTING IN PENNSYLVANIA

At the beginning of each decade, each state redraws the maps that are used to determine state legislative districts and U.S. House of Representatives Congressional Districts. This process is known as redistricting and the districts are based on figures derived from the decennial census.

This process has become very controversial in recent years. There have been charges that some states have drawn districts that are unfairly partisan, a process known as gerrymandering. This gerrymandering is said by some to occur most often in states in which the legislatures draw the maps.

Some states, however, have developed systems in which a non-partisan commission is responsible for creating the legislative and congressional districts. Pennsylvania has not gone in that direction. A five member Commission that includes four sitting legislators draws the state legislative maps and the Congressional maps are done separately through legislation.

What do you think? Should Pennsylvania continue to use the current system? Or should the Keystone State join other states in creating non-partisan commissions to carry out the decennial redistricting?

The Application and 2022 Essay, together with Required Documents 2, 3, 4 and 6 (as listed on page 1) must be electronically transmitted no later than 11:59 PM on January 28, 2022 or POSTMARKED no later than January 28, 2022. Please mail the application to Kathy Speaker MacNett, Treasurer, 320 Market Street, Suite 600W, Harrisburg, PA 17101 or submit via email to FinneganEssayContest@gmail.com. All emailed documents must be in Word or .pdf format.