

Civic Star Challenge Official Rules and Regulations

A Project of the Bill of Rights Institute and iCivics

Disclaimer: VOID WHEREVER PROHIBITED BY LAW

Effective Date: August 15, 2026

Deadline: December 15, 2026, at 11:59pm Pacific Time (PT)

Section I – General Rules

The Bill of Rights Institute ("BRI"), in partnership with iCivics (collectively, the "Sponsors"), will administer the Civic Star Challenge (the "Contest") to recognize and reward outstanding civic education efforts by educators in the United States, U.S. territories, and American armed forces schools abroad. These Civic Star Challenge Official Rules and Regulations ("Official Rules") shall serve as the official terms and conditions governing the Contest. By submitting an entry or otherwise participating in the Contest, participants hereby unconditionally acknowledge, accept and agree to these Official Rules, which constitute a legally binding agreement between each participant and the Sponsors. Participants also hereby unconditionally agree to be bound by the decisions of the Sponsors, in their sole discretion, which shall be binding and final in every respect on all matters relating to the Contest. The Sponsors hereby reserve sole discretion in all aspects of Contest administration, including eligibility, judging, prize selection, and rule interpretation. No appeals or disputes will be permitted.

The Contest will run from August 15, 2026 through December 15, 2026, and consists of one tier: (1) Civic Star Champion Random Drawing (the "Drawing") as described in more detail below.

To participate in the Drawing, eligible educators (see Section II for eligibility) must engage their students in civic-themed educational activities and submit documentation using the official submission forms described below (see Section III(1) for further

details). Entries will only be accepted through the designated online platforms described below. Submissions via mail or email will not be accepted. All entries for the Drawing must be submitted by 11:59pm PT on last day of each drawing cycle (September 30, October 31, and December 15th as laid out in the contest cycle documentation) Late or incomplete entries or entries not compliant with the submission guidelines or any other terms or conditions in these Official Rules will not be accepted.

Section II – Eligibility

The Contest is open only to individuals who meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Are 18 years of age or older as of August 15, 2026; and
- Reside in the United States, a U.S. territory, or on a U.S. military base.

With respect to the Drawing, individuals must work with students on a regular basis in educational settings such as K–12 schools, homeschools, or youth organizations, including teachers, homeschool parents, instructors in extracurricular or civic education programs, and other adult mentors directly responsible for student learning.

With respect to the Essay Contest, individuals must teach in, or otherwise be affiliated with, a formal educational institution.

Eligible participants will hereafter be referred to as "Educators," as applicable.

Employees, contractors, agents, board members, and any other individuals otherwise engaged or compensated by either of the Sponsors or any of their affiliates, and the immediate family members or household members of those individuals, are not eligible to participate in this Contest.

Section III – Submission Guidelines & Timing

Civic Star Champion Random Drawing

To enter to be a Civic Star Champion, Educators must:

1. Implement an in-class civic activity aligned with a Civic Star Challenge theme.
2. Submit a completed activity entry form online. Submissions may only be made through the official Civic Star Challenge portal. Required form fields include:
 - Educator name and contact information (personal and school email)
 - School name, city and state
 - Grade band
 - Civic theme taught
 - Number of students engaged

The Drawing consists of three (3) submission cycles (each individually, a "Cycle"):

- Cycle 1: August 15, 2025 – September 30, 2026 (deadline: 11:59pm PT)
- Cycle 2: October 1, 2026 – October 31, 2026 (deadline: 11:59pm PT)
- Cycle 3: November 1 – December 15, 2026 (deadline: 11:59pm PT)

Educators may only submit one entry per Cycle, however, Educators may participate in more than one Cycle. Winning a prize in one Cycle does not disqualify Educators from entering other Cycles.

Section IV – Winner Selection Process

Civic Star Champions will be decided based on a random drawing conducted by the Bill of Rights Institute. Educators who submit an entry that complies with the submission guidelines above and the other terms and conditions of these Official Rules by the applicable Cycle deadline will be entered into the Drawing for that Cycle.

Winners for each Cycle will be individually notified and contacted by email on or around the following dates:

- Cycle 1: Early October 2026
- Cycle 2: Early November 2026
- Cycle 3: Mid-December 2026

Section V – Awards

Civic Star Champion

- Each winner receives a \$5000 cash prize
- All entrants receive a "Civic Engagement Champion" digital badge in the form of a custom image file that denotes participation in the Drawing

Educators will be required to submit W-9 forms, direct deposit information, and other tax documentation and information requested by the Sponsors. All taxes imposed on prizes are the sole responsibility of the award recipients.

Prizes not claimed within 180 days will be forfeited. If winners fail to provide requested information or documentation or comply with applicable laws or these Official Rules, the prize may be forfeited. No transfer, substitution or cash equivalents for prizes will be provided, except at the Sponsors' sole discretion. The Sponsors hereby reserve the right to substitute an award or prize, in whole or in part, of equal or greater monetary value if an award or prize cannot be awarded, in whole or in part, as described for any reason.

In the event of the possibility of inclusion in media coverage resulting from public relations activities initiated by one or both of the Sponsors, such as press releases or proactive media outreach to national print, digital or broadcast outlets, in each case, as determined by the Sponsors in their sole discretion and subject to editorial discretion of media organizations. Media recognition is not guaranteed.

Section VI – Communications; Intellectual Property Rights; Privacy Statement

By entering or otherwise participating in the Contest, participants hereby:

- consent to be contacted by or on behalf of the Sponsors or their affiliates, including via email or other messages;
- agree that their entries and submissions, in whole or in part, are the property of the Sponsors and may be released into the public domain without any additional consideration;
- without limiting the foregoing, grant Sponsors and their affiliates and each of their respective successors and assigns a perpetual, irrevocable, worldwide, sublicensable, royalty-free, fully paid-up and non-exclusive right and license, and consent, to their entries and submissions, including any and all materials, information and data included therein, or any other materials, information or data otherwise provided or made available to either of the Sponsors or their affiliates in connection with the Contest, including their name, image, likeness, photograph, picture, portrait, voice, video or audio recording, biographical information, and/or words, to use, reproduce, adapt, modify, publish, distribute,

publicly perform, create a derivative work from, and publicly display any of the foregoing for purposes of facilitating, operating and administering the Contest and for advertising, promotional, educational, reporting, fundraising and other business purposes, in any media now known or hereafter developed, without notice to, consent from, or additional compensation payable to the participant; and

- the Sponsors hereby reserve the right to edit submitted entries for grammar and style.

Any personal information included therein will be managed according to each Sponsor's privacy policy:

- iCivics Privacy Policy
- BRI Privacy Policy

Participants hereby acknowledge and agree that by participating in the Contest, participants have read and understood and agree to be bound by each Sponsor's privacy policy (linked above) and consent to all collection and other processing of their personal information in accordance with these Official Rules and such privacy policies.

Section VII – Nondiscrimination Policy

In operating and administering this Contest, the Sponsors will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.

Section VIII – Limitation of Liability; Release; Governing Law; Waiver of Jury Trial

In no event shall Sponsors or their affiliates be liable to participants for direct, special, indirect, incidental, punitive, exemplary or consequential damages, including without limitation, loss of use of profits, regardless of whether such damages are caused or allegedly caused by breach of contract, tort or otherwise (including negligent or willful act or omission, warranty, indemnity, or strict liability).

Participants hereby acknowledge and agree that the Sponsors and their affiliates be responsible or liable for any and all (i) printing, typographical, mechanical, technological,

human or other errors in these Official Rules, in the administration of the Contest, in the announcement of a prize winner, and/or in any advertising or other associated promotional materials in connection with the Contest or (ii) technical issues, internet outages, system errors or failures, viruses, bugs, lost or unavailable network connections, or any other disruptions, malfunctions or cybersecurity incident, including which may limit a participant's ability to enter the Contest.

The Sponsors have not made and the Sponsors are not responsible in any manner for any warranties, representations, or guarantees, express or implied, in fact or law, relating to the Contest or the awards or prizes, or regarding the use, value or enjoyment of the awards or prizes, including, without limitation, their quality, condition, merchantability, or fitness for a particular use.

By entering or otherwise participating in this Contest, each participant hereby agrees to release, indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Sponsors and their affiliates, and each of their advertising and Contest agencies, and each of their respective partners, representatives, agents, successors, assigns, employees, officers and directors, from any and all liability, losses, harm, claims, damages, injuries, costs or expenses whatsoever, including, without limitation, property damage, personal injury and/or death, which may occur or arise out of or in connection with the Contest, including acceptance and/or use or misuse of a prize or award, or for any claims based on publicity rights, defamation, invasion of privacy or otherwise. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Sponsors hereby reserve the right to assume the exclusive defense and control of any matter for which participants are required to indemnify the Sponsors and participants shall cooperate with the Sponsors' defense of such claims.

The Contest, these Official Rules, and all related disputes shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia without regard for its conflict of laws doctrine, and regardless of where participants live or enter. Participants hereby agree that any legal action arising in connection with the Contest, whether in tort, contract, or otherwise, shall be heard and resolved exclusively in the federal courts of the Eastern District of Virginia.

As a condition of participating in this Contest, participants hereby irrevocably and perpetually waive any right that they may have to a trial by jury in respect of any

litigation directly or indirectly arising out of, under, or in connection with the Contest, including without limitation, the method of entry or any awarded prize.

Section IX – Additional Legal Terms and Disclosures

This Contest is subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations. In the event of any conflict between these Official Rules and any other terms or conditions communicated by the Sponsors orally or in writing, these Official Rules will govern. If any provision(s) of these Official Rules are held to be invalid or unenforceable, all remaining provisions hereof will remain in full force and effect.

The Sponsors hereby reserve the right, in their sole discretion, to limit, cancel, modify, delay, or suspend the Contest at any time. The Sponsors also hereby reserve the right to any remedy, including cancellation of any awards or prizes, if any fraud, tampering or other violations of these Official Rules are suspected or occur. Participants hereby acknowledge and agree that submissions may be voided if they are, in whole or in part, illegible, incomplete, damaged, counterfeit, obtained through fraud, or late, in each case, as determined by the Sponsors in their sole discretion. The Sponsors further hereby reserve the right to disqualify any participant if the Sponsors determine, in their sole discretion, that such participant tampered with the submission process or any other part of the Contest or attempted to undermine the legitimate operations of the Contest by cheating, deception, or other unfair playing practices or annoyed, abused, threatened or harassed any other participants, the Sponsors or their affiliates or any of their respective personnel. Any false information provide within the context of the Contest concerning identity, mailing address, phone number, email address, ownership of right or non-compliance with these Official Rules or the like may result in immediate elimination from the Contest. Odds of winning any prizes or awards depends on the number of eligible entries received and the skill of participants.

Participants and their submissions must not infringe, misappropriate, or violate any third-party proprietary rights, intellectual property rights, industrial property rights, personal or moral rights or any other rights, including, without limitation, copyright, trademark, patent, trade secret, privacy, publicity or confidentiality rights or obligations or violate applicable laws and regulations in connection with the Contest. Submissions must not contain any confidential, proprietary or other sensitive information, including, but not limited to, any third-party personal information or any third party's intellectual

property, or anything that is or may be illegal or be in any way improper. Participants must not use any copyright, trademark, patent, trade secret, personal or confidential information or other proprietary rights except as permitted under applicable law. Participants hereby represent and warrant to the Sponsors that their submissions are their own original work, or that they have obtained all necessary permissions to incorporate work that is not their own into their submission, and that they have the right to submit their submissions in the Contest and grant all licenses and rights granted hereunder.

Nothing herein shall constitute an offer or contract of employment, joint venture, or partnership relationship between any participant and the Sponsors or their affiliates or any of their respective agents or partner companies. Participants hereby acknowledge and agree that they have submitted their submissions voluntarily and not in confidence or trust and that no confidential, fiduciary, agency or other relationship or implied-in-fact contract now exists between participants and the Sponsors or their affiliates or any of their respective agents or partner companies, and that no such relationship is established by such submission.

Participants are entirely responsible for all costs and expenses associated with their participation in the Contest.

This Contest is not sponsored by, endorsed by, administered by, or associated with, any platform used to host or promote the Contest, or any brand or retailer associated with a prize, including, without limitation, Facebook, TikTok, or Instagram. The Sponsors have no control over and are not responsible for the actions of any such platform, brand or retailer.

Section X – Contact Us

The Sponsors of this Contest are the Bill of Rights Institute and iCivics.

For questions and comments regarding the Contest or these Official Rules, including requests for prize winner identification or technical difficulties please contact: CivicStarChallenge@billofrightsinstitute.org.

