



2025-2026 District 2-E2
Drug Awareness Speech Contest Rules
“The Impact of Weight Loss Drugs on Adolescents”



A. Speech Subject: Weight loss is becoming more prevalent among adolescents. This topic asks you to weigh the benefits as well as the risks of prescription drugs for adolescents. Specifically examine the potential benefits of medications like of medications like GLP agonistics (Liraglutide and Semilattices) in treating obesity in adolescents. Discuss the potential risks and side effects including gastrointestinal issues, gallbladder disease, increased risks of fracture, and pancreatitis. Analyze the long-term impact of these drugs on adolescent growth development, bone density and muscle mass. Debate whether weight loss is always the safest way or most effective method of promoting adolescent health.

B. Contest Rules:

1. The title of the contestant’s speech is not required to be the same as the subject for the speech. Contestants should be creative in the selection of a speech title and set the tone for their presentation with the title they choose.
2. The presentation should analyze the problem given in the subject and present solutions.
3. Research for this topic can be conducted by interviewing school officials, teachers, judges, law enforcement personnel, probation personnel, counselors, juvenile court officials, legislators, medical personnel and by using the internet and the library.
4. The topic is broad and allows the contestant considerable leeway in the selection of their solution or solutions.
5. Sources of data and quotes should be identified by title, author, and date published (year if known).
6. Creative, innovative, practical, and reasonable ideas are welcome.
7. The speech will be from five (5) to seven (7) minutes in length.
 - a. A monitor will signal contestants at five (5) minutes and at six and one half (6 ½) minutes.
 - b. At seven (7) minutes, the monitor will signal and five (5) points will be deducted from the contestant’s score.
 - c. A speech of less than five (5) or more than seven and a half (7 ½) minutes will be disqualified.
 - d. Should a disturbance occur during a speech, the contest monitor will adjust the time accordingly.
8. Notes, cue cards and video equipment may not be used at District or MD-2 State contests.
9. Order of appearance before the judging panel will be determined in advance at the direction of the Contest Chair.
10. Contestants shall remain outside the contest area until invited to enter by the Contest Official.
11. The audience will be informed before the first contestant to not applaud at the end of the speech and reminded before each contestant delivers his/her speech of the same requirement.
12. The audience will be asked to turn the sound off any cell phones or other electronic devices during the competition.
13. Failure to comply with this rule could result in disqualification of a contestant at the discretion of the Contest Official.
14. The winners will be announced during the luncheon at noon.
15. The 1st place winner must be present to deliver his or her speech at that time.

C. Awards:

1. The 1st place winner will receive a \$3,000 scholarship.
2. The 2nd place winner will receive a \$2,000 scholarship.

3. The 3rd place winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.
4. To collect the scholarship award, the contestant must complete the following process:
 - a. Contestant winners must complete a Scholarship Request Form along with proof of registration information from a university, college, junior college, or vocational school.
 - b. The scholarship awards must be collected no later than two (2) years following the recipient's graduation from high school.

D. Rules of Eligibility for Contestants:

1. A contestant must submit a completed entry application (containing all requested signatures) and associated documents to the Lions District 2-E2 Contest Chairperson prior to the entry deadline.
2. A false statement on the entry application, or associated document, will result in the disqualification of the contestant.
3. When a 1st placed district contestant is unable to participate in the MD-2 State Contest, the first alternate contestant from that District, when approved by the MD-2 State Contest Chairman, may enter the contest.
4. Each contestant must be an enrolled student in a public high school or comparable educational program, located in Texas.
5. Each contestant must be a junior, senior or immediate graduate at the time of the District 2-E2 Contest.

E. Responsibilities of Contestants:

1. Each contestant shall be required to submit the following to their sponsoring Lions Club by **December 1, 2025**. The sponsoring Lions Club is to forward the information to Drug Awareness Council Speech Coordinator, Lion Bob Chesney, by **December 15, 2025**.
 - a. Four (4) typed copies of contest application. If you win: state forms are mandatory and are to be completed online and printed from the fillable form on the State Website: www.texaslions.org. **No handwritten applications or forms are accepted.**
 - b. Two (2) 4x6 or 5x7 photographs that are of the head-and-shoulders, glossy, color and high resolution (300 dpi or better).
 - c. The printed copy of the speech will not be used for judging purposes, but shall be used for publications and contest promotionals. Failure to supply the printed copy of the speech, will result in a forfeiture of any awards earned in the contest.
2. Attend the District 2-E2 Contest on **January 17, 2026** at Irma Marsh Middle School, 415 Hagg Dr., Ft. Worth, TX 76114.
3. Contestants will have the opportunity to visit the presentation area at the District Contest and ask any questions they may have about the contest.
4. The District 1st place winner is required to attend an online orientation held on **May 9, 2026** for the State Contest and Online Contest will be held online Saturday, **May 16, 2026** at times set forth by the State Contest Chair.
5. Exemption of this requirement may be granted prior to the meeting by their State Contest Coordinator of the State Contest Chair.
6. 1st place winner will be required to present his or her speech at the MD-2 Texas Lions Convention Opportunities for Youth Luncheon on Saturday, May 30, 2026, in Odessa, Texas.
7. All contestants must be available, upon request, to participate in Lions District 2-E2 events and activities during the period from immediately after the contest until the end of the following year's contest.

Lions District 2-E2 Drug Awareness Council Speech Coordinator:

Lion Bob Chesney

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