



PRESS RELEASE

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Pasco Tax Collector Mike Fasano Announces Essay Contest for High School Students

Pasco County Tax Collector Mike Fasano announces that his office is accepting entries in his 2024 high school essay contest. The competition begins January 9, 2024, and runs through January 26, 2024. The essay contest is for Pasco County's high school students (Grades 9-12). Students of Pasco's public/ charter, private, parochial, non-public, and home schools are all welcome to participate.

In 500 words or less students will answer the question: *"What is the most important responsibility of a county tax collector and why?"* Entries will be judged by a panel of directors from the Pasco County Tax Collector's Office. Entries will be reviewed on how well the student communicates his/ her response to the question as well as overall essay structure, appearance, and readability.

"We have had a wonderful response to the contest in previous years," states **Tax Collector Mike Fasano**. "I have no doubt that we will receive some excellent

essays again this year. Pasco County has some of the state's best and brightest students. The student who writes the winning entry will receive a \$500 VISA gift card. I am looking forward to the day when I can hand this wonderful prize to the student who prepares the best essay."

Students in public/ charter schools are asked to submit their essays to their principal, who will forward them to the tax collector's office. Students in private, parochial, non-public, or home schools may send their essays directly to **Jose Rodriguez Sierra, Communications Specialist**, Pasco County Tax Collector's Office, P.O. Box 276, Dade City, FL 33526. Entries may also be delivered to our office in New Port Richey at 4720 U.S. Highway 19, New Port Richey 34652 c/o Jose Rodriguez Sierra. Additionally, entries will be accepted via email at jrodriguezsierra@pascotaxes.com If there are any questions about the contest, please call 727-847-8165 ext. 3826.

Tax Collector Mike Fasano encourages family members, neighbors, and friends of eligible students to tell Pasco high school students about the contest. Entries will be accepted until 5:00 PM on January 26, 2024. Each entry should include the student's name, school, grade, and contact information. The winner of the essay contest will be notified by telephone no later than February 29, 2024. The winning entrant will also be announced via a media release after the winner has been notified.

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