

Essay Contest - up to **FOUR \$1000** **SCHOLARSHIPS!**

POLISH AMERICAN
COUNCIL OF
TEXAS



PACTx.org

Essay Topic:

“A Polish Texan’s Story”

Eligible Participants:

Students of any ethnicity, any faith, enrolled in a Texas

- a. High school – in Grade 12 only OR**
- b. University**

Awards:

Four \$1,000 college scholarships

Deadline:

April 6, 2026

Carefully read the REQUIREMENTS on the back of this flyer.
SUBMIT YOUR ESSAY and cover page as separate documents

to office@pactx.org before the deadline.

YOUR COVER PAGE must include: Your name, address, email, phone number; name and address of the school you attend, name and address of the financial office at the university you will attend, AND email of your high school counselor (if you are a high school student).

IMPORTANT: Do not write any of your personal identification information on essay pages.

REQUIREMENTS - Read Carefully

All requirements must be met or application will be disqualified

- Interview one person currently living in Texas, who is either Polish or of Polish descent.
- Include the date and location of interview in your REQUIRED bibliography.
- The title of your essay must be the **name of your subject only**.
- **Compose a 400-700 word essay about your subject**, using proper English, grammar, punctuation, and spelling; DOUBLE-spaced, in a **PDF**. If you win, we will then require an editable copy of your essay.
- If you use AI, please credit it in your bibliography.
- **Include at least two additional references about topics or events mentioned by the interviewee**, such as immigrations, wars, disasters, etc. Be sure to include all references in your required bibliography.
- Include the story of their (or their ancestors') immigration to Texas from Poland, the subject's biographical information, milestones, military service, involvement in Polish-interest activities, organizations, and Polish cultural efforts, if applicable.
- Discuss your subject's challenges as a Polish Texan.
- Mention any Polish traditions the subject or their family practices and whether or not he/she speaks Polish.
- Discuss the person's contributions to further the Polish heritage and culture in Texas.
- Include awards, recognitions or achievements related to your subject's Polish culture, if applicable.
- Include this person's home town in Texas, AND in Poland, if they lived there.
- Discuss how this person has influenced you.
- Students may have their essay proof-read by a parent or teacher but must include the proofreader's name in the bibliography.
- **At the bottom of your cover page, INCLUDE YOUR WORD COUNT,**
- Your essay should be original.
- Optional: You may include up to two captioned JPG photos of your subject, on a separate page of your essay but not in the body of your essay. Do not include your name in the captions.

EXTRA CONSIDERATION GIVEN FOR

Volunteering for a minimum of 2 hours with a Polish-interest or multi-cultural organization or event within one year preceeding this application. Include a document signed by an event organizer listing name of event, phone number of person signing the document, date of event, hours worked, nature of work; and a photo of applicant at the event, *if possible*.