



## Essay Contest

To imagine is to form a picture of something in your mind. We do it all the time. We imagine what it would be like to go somewhere or to receive something. Because it's in our mind, there is no limit on what it looks, feels or smells like. Using your imagination is not only a fun way to travel wherever you want to go, but also a great way to create ways to solve problems.

Elected officials are charged with making their community a good place to live. This means finding solutions to issues the city/town may have, currently, and being able to imagine a better city/town for the future. Services offered by a town like fixing potholes, running a police department, trash pick-up service, or providing recreational activities are important. But, it doesn't mean that the town will always offer those services the same way all the time.

Look around your city/town/community, re-imagine how you would improve on it or solve one of its issues, if you were Mayor.

## If you were Mayor...

1. What would you re-imagine about your city/town/community? And why?
2. Describe how you'd make tomorrow better in your community/town/city

## Contest Rules

The contest is open to all Maryland students enrolled in the 4th grade during the 2019-20 school year.

- All essays must begin with the opening line: "If I Were Mayor, I Would..."
- Essays may not exceed 275 words.
- Only one essay may be submitted per student.
- Essays will be judged by contest sponsors in the following areas: essay relation to contest topic; displayed knowledge about municipal government and the role of a mayor; creativity; and proper use of grammar.
- Students must include their first and last names, school and teacher's name at the top of their essays.
- Essays must be received no later than March 27, 2020
- Winners will be notified by late April. Runners up will be notified late May. Check [mdmunicipal.org](http://mdmunicipal.org) for a full list of finalists (winning student) and semi-finalists anytime late April.

## Official Entry Form

School: \_\_\_\_\_  
School Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Sponsoring Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Total number of essays submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

**All entry information is Mandatory**