

Future Humanitarian Contest



What's the contest about?

August 19 marks World Humanitarian Day, a day to celebrate and pay tribute to aid workers who help the millions of people affected by humanitarian crises around the world. Designated by the United Nations General Assembly to remember the 22 UN and relief agency staff who lost their lives in a bombing in Bagdad 13 years ago, August 19 has also become a day to celebrate the humanitarian spirit that mobilizes people to help those who are suffering.

For more than half a century, USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance—on behalf of the American people—has provided humanitarian assistance around the world to help those in need. Our mandate is to save lives, alleviate human suffering, and reduce the social and economic impact of disasters worldwide. When a disaster strikes, we work with our partners to provide life-saving aid like safe drinking water, emergency medical care, shelter, nutrition for infants and children, and improved sanitation to prevent the spread of disease.

To help us mark this year's World Humanitarian Day, we would like to hear from you—future humanitarians—about what you would do to help people affected by global crises.

The Topic

What would you like to do to help people around the world during crises, such as natural disasters and war?

Getting Started

Here are some questions and ideas to help you get started, but you don't have to stick to these. Be as creative as you like!

- Why is it important for Americans to help people affected by disasters overseas?
- Is there a time when you helped during a disaster? Maybe you served as a volunteer for a local or international organization, or organized a fundraising drive to

contribute to disaster relief efforts. What made this work rewarding? Why did you decide to do it in the first place?

- Have you or someone you know been affected by a disaster?
- Have you or someone you know ever received help during a disaster? What was that experience like, and how can you draw from it to help others in the future?

What do I need to know about participating?

- Submissions may be in the form of a blog, video, or photo essay.
- Blogs should be no longer than 500 words. An ideal entry will include several photos and/or original illustrations.
- Videos should be no longer than one minute in length.
- Photo essays should have no more than 8 photographs.
- All entries must be in English.
- You must be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate university program and be at least 18 years of age at the time of submission.
- Deadline for submissions is 11:59 p.m. EDT on February 6, 2017. Any questions regarding submissions should be emailed to ofdainquiries@ofda.gov prior to the deadline.
- Your entry must be an **original piece created by you**.
- The winning entry will appear on the USAID website and/or other USAID accounts on various online platforms to possibly include Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or blogging sites. Winners will be selected by a panel of judges from USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance.
- Winner(s) will be notified on or about March 6, 2017. Due to the volume of entries, only the winner(s) will be contacted.

How do I enter?

To enter, email your completed entry form and submission to ofdainquiries@ofda.gov.

Additional Information on USAID/OFDA

- USAID/OFDA [homepage](#)
- USAID/OFDA on [Facebook](#)
- USAID/OFDA on [Twitter](#)

Official Rules

You must be currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program to enter. Participation constitutes entrant's full and unconditional agreement to and acceptance of these Official Rules. USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance Future Humanitarian Contest ("Contest") submission deadline is February 6, 2017. Contest is sponsored by USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance ("USAID/OFDA" or "Sponsor"). USAID/OFDA is headquartered at 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20523.

(1) Eligibility

Contest is only offered to students currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program. Students whose education is either sponsored or funded by USAID may not enter the Contest. Employees, independent contractors, officers, and directors of USAID/OFDA, its affiliates, subsidiaries, advertising, promotion and fulfillment agencies, legal advisors, and the immediate family members and persons living in the same household of such persons, are not eligible to participate in the Contest. Entry is void where prohibited by law.

(2) How to Enter

Submit a blog, video, or photo essay that demonstrates the importance and impact of humanitarian assistance. All entries must be in English.

To enter, fill out the entry form and email it to ofdainquiries@ofda.gov no later than 11:59 p.m. EDT on February 6, 2017. Submissions must include a title, author name as you would like your attribution to appear, and a one sentence biography line. (e.g., “Mary Smith is a junior at Somewhere University”).

(3) Format and Length

- (a) Written entries should be no more than 500 words and should be submitted as a Word document.
- (b) Photo essays may include up to eight photographs. Photo submissions should be formatted as an “8 x 10” image in EPS format with a minimum of 300 DPI resolution and must be accompanied by JPG copy that can be viewed on the website. The JPG copy should be a resolution of at least 72 DPI and with minimum dimensions of 600 x 400 pixels or 400 x 600 pixels but no more than 1350 x 900 pixels or 900 x 1350 pixels. It is important to note that the competition judges will only view the web JPG version of your entry – this is the version they will vote on, which will ultimately determine a winner. Please upload your photo JPG in the dimensions within the range provided that make the most sense for your entry, while also making sure this version is readable and clear when viewing online.
- (c) Video entries should be no longer than 60 seconds in length and should not exceed 2 GB in size. Video entries should be developed for high image and sound quality with a minimum resolution of 640 x 480 pixels. Acceptable upload formats are **.MP4, .MPEG, .MPG only. Maximum upload size is 2 GB per file.** No commercial music can be used in the videos, and any entries containing such soundtracks will be automatically disqualified. Video entries may not contain any

endorsement, solicitation, commercial, or similar content advocating for or against candidates for office, political issues, or commercial products.

(d) All entries must be in English.

(4) Copyright Infringement

By submitting an entry, each entrant warrants that he or she is the sole author and copyright owner of entry. The applicant warrants and represents that his or her entry has not been entered into any other contest or won any other award. The applicant warrants and represents that his or her entry is an original product created solely for this contest.

All applicants are to avoid violating copyright laws or using brand names or logos other than USAID in their entries. While the use of images, music and other works in the public domain may be incorporated into Entries, materials that infringe on the rights of any third party may not be used. You agree to indemnify the U.S. Government and the U.S. Agency for International Development for any claim, demand, judgment, or other allegation arising from a possible violation of someone's trademark, copyright, or other legally protected interest in your video.

By submitting an entry, entrant grants to USAID a nonexclusive, irrevocable license to copy, reproduce, display, or distribute the entry, and to make derivative works based upon the entry or a substantial portion of the entry without attribution or prior permission. Entries become the property of USAID and will not be acknowledged or returned.

(5) Judging Criteria

A panel comprised of USAID/OFDA staff will vote to select the winner(s). All judges will review entries for appropriateness and clarity of message, factual accuracy, originality, delivery, and overall impact. Most important, the judges are looking for the entry that best conveys the importance and the impact of humanitarian assistance. The judges will announce the winners on or about March 6, 2016.

Judges' decisions will be deemed final and no appeal or reconsideration will be permitted. USAID/OFDA reserves the right to disqualify and remove any entry which is, in the judging panel's sole discretion, inappropriate, offensive, defamatory or demeaning to USAID/OFDA's reputation or goodwill, or any entrant who, in the judging panel's sole discretion, engages in conduct that is inappropriate, offensive, defamatory or demeaning to USAID/OFDA's reputation or goodwill or to other entrants or their respective entries.

Future Humanitarian Contest Entry Form

Name:

Email:

Phone Number:

University:

Biography (1 or 2 sentences):

Entry Type (Check one):

- Blog (email attachment)
- Photo Essay (email attachment)
- Video (YouTube or Vimeo link provided below)

If entering a video, upload your video onto YouTube or Vimeo and provide the link here:

If entering a blog or photo essay, please remember to attach your files to your email submission!

Please email your completed entry form to ofdainquiries@ofda.gov by 11:59 p.m. EDT on **February 6, 2017**. [Please email](mailto:ofdainquiries@ofda.gov) any questions to ofdainquiries.gov prior to the deadline. Late submissions will not be accepted under any circumstances.