

ATTENTION: Foreign Service Youth 10-18 Years of Age

2020 KidVid Contest Update

Revised Rules and Submission Date Reflecting the Current World Situation

The FSI Transition Center's Overseas Briefing Center (OBC) has revised its rules for the 2020 KidVid Contest and moved its submission date to allow more youth time to participate while staying safe and practicing appropriate social distancing. The Foreign Service Youth Foundation (FSYF) will provide prize money through a generous donation from Meghan Pachas of MAP Property Solutions LLC, with awards to the top winners.

How has the contest changed?

- For those youth who started a production and managed to film footage of the normally required content, we welcome your submissions. We would like to suggest incorporating some of the additional elements (below) that we are asking others to focus on given the current world situation.
- For those youth who planned on submitting a video but were unable to start, we encourage you to join the contest. The guidelines listed below will allow you to convey what your life has been like since the worldwide spread of COVID-19. Describe in your own words what your activities at post. You may have some previous footage of your post that you might be able to incorporate into the video. If not, it is not required for this year's submission.

Who can submit?

Youth in the foreign affairs community between the ages of 10 and 18 (as of the May 15 deadline), currently posted overseas or recently evacuated from an overseas post.

What is the submission date?

May 15, 2020

How can I submit my video?:

Please submit entries using an MP4 format to the [2020 KidVid Submission Site](#).

What should my entry include?

Entries must include the KidVid Submission Form and the Release Form, both located on the Foreign Service Youth Foundation website at <https://fsyf.org/KidVid>.

How have the rules changed for this year's contest?

Given the current world situation, we understand that many of you may only be able to video from your home. Your participation will allow others to better understand your current activities and how you and your family are adjusting to remaining inside your home. This may end up also being something you can use as a school project.

Revised Guidelines

1. Introduce yourself, and tell us your age and grade, your family's current overseas assignment, and if your family is evacuated or still at post.
2. Describe in your own words what life was like at your post prior to the outbreak of COVID-19. Include the following: something about your housing, the school you attend, recreational activities and shopping options, as well as a bit about the city and country. If you have no live footage, you may include a few personal photos that might illustrate what you are describing.
3. Tell us where you currently are living and how you will be finishing up this school year. Describe what it is like for you (and your siblings) if you take part in online schooling.
4. If you are currently evacuated, where is your new home for now? How has your situation changed? You can include a bit about the evacuation process from your perspective. What did you have to do to get ready? What did other members of the family have to do to prepare? Tip: Use a smart phone to film yourself in your new interior surroundings!
5. How are you currently communicating with your friends and classmates? What modes of online social media are most popular for you at this time?
6. What are your favorite things to do right now? And what activities are you missing?

Evaluation Criteria

A committee, made up of Foreign Service Institute employees, review and discuss each submission. Judging is based on the visual presentation as well as the narration describing the footage and life at post. Because most of you will not be able to film outside, you can film inside your current home. Provide narration continuously throughout the entire video. If you have previously filmed footage, narrate that as well. Audio clarity, volume consistency, and a steady hand with the video recorder are important.

Music, graphics, and special effects may be used but are not required. We are not looking for professional quality productions; good home-video quality is perfectly acceptable. Technical quality is not as important as content. A good product is one that gives a clear portrayal of a youth's life at post or on evacuation, if applicable. Do not include copyright-protected music or images as part of the final product.

- Ideal video length is between 15 and 20 minutes.
- We ask that adults provide minimal assistance in the video production.
- The contest allows for multiple entries from different students at a post.
- Group submissions are acceptable. Prize money will be divided accordingly.

All submissions become the property of the Overseas Briefing Center, which adds all submissions to its video collection for use by employees and their family members. Winning entries will also be posted on the Department of State OpenNet, OBC's Post Info to Go-External and the "members only" portion of the FYSF internet site.

Questions regarding the contest rules or guidelines can be directed to Maureen Johnston at the Overseas Briefing Center, email JohnstonM5@state.gov.