

# Wilson Co. Right to Life - High School Oratory Contest Guidelines

The oratory contest will be held on **Tuesday April 21, 2026**. All Wilson County high school students in grades 9-12 are invited to present an original pro-life speech choosing from the topics of abortion, euthanasia, infanticide, or stem cell research. (NOTE: Contest registrations must be received by **Tuesday April 21, 2026** by mailing them to Wilson Co. Right To Life Box 621 Mt. Juliet TN 37121) (NOTE: Speeches do NOT have to be memorized at the COUNTY level).

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For questions or more info, email [info@tnrtl.org](mailto:info@tnrtl.org) or call 615-298-LIFE (5433)  
More info, guidelines and applications are at [WilsonCountyRightToLife.com](http://WilsonCountyRightToLife.com)

## **PARTICIPANTS:**

Grades 9-12 are eligible to participate in both the local and state contests. Only students in grades 11-12 are eligible to advance to the National Level, per the NRLC guidelines.

## **SPEECHES:**

- \* Contestants are to research, write and present an original pro-life speech on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, or stem cell research.
- \* Props should not be used in presentation.
- \* Speeches are to be 5-7 minutes in length. Disqualification will occur if the speech is under 4 or over 8 minutes at the state and national level of contest.
- \* When statistics are used, it should be the most current information available.
- \* Contestants are encouraged to memorize their speeches at the local level; however, speeches are REQUIRED to be memorized for both the State and National levels.
- \* Contestants are required to participate in their own county's contest unless there is not an active chapter in that county. In such case, participant may participate in the closest county's contest.

## **JUDGES:**

Oratory context judges serve as constructive critics of the presentation and use a pre-determined scoring system. It is imperative that individuals chosen as judges are qualified to serve in this role. Respect for the students and contest credibility demand that we provide an objective and knowledgeable judging panel. An ideal oratory judge:

- \* Possesses a knowledge of oration and the nature of this contest
- \* Is a respected member of the community as determined by the local sponsor
- \* Is sympathetic to the pro-life cause
- \* Should be at least 21 years of age
- \* Must not be an immediate relative of any contestant
- \* Should not be a chapter officer or board member

## **TIME:**

Time should be given between each contestant's speech for the judges to complete the ballot before the next contestant starts.

**WILSON CO. PRIZES:** \$100 for FIRST place winner  
\$50 for SECOND place winner  
\$25 for THIRD place winner

**WILSON CO. WINNER:** Winner of the Wilson Co. contest will compete in the TN state contest.