

THE IOWA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION
625 EAST COURT AVENUE
DES MOINES, IA 50309
(515) 243-3179
www.iowabar.org



September 2018

TO: Iowa High School Teachers

FROM: Lucas Draisey, Chairperson
“Know Your Constitution” Committee

RE: 2018-2019 “Know Your Constitution” Program

The Iowa State Bar Association will send five Iowa high school students and their teachers to Washington, D.C. from **February 17 through February 22, 2019**, as part of the Iowa State Bar Association’s continuing program to aid in education of the public about the United States Constitution. We hope your students will take part in the “Know Your Constitution” program, which features an open-book quiz designed to encourage a careful reading of our Constitution.

The purpose of this program is to stimulate interest and create pride in the Constitution. A notice similar to this is being made available to all Iowa high school principals. The Young Lawyers Division “Know Your Constitution” Committee thanks the ISBA Foundation, the Iowa Supreme Court Interest on Lawyers Trust Account (IOLTA) Program, the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division, and county bar associations for their support of this program.

On this website, please find a packet of materials (including the quiz, program rules, an answer sheet and a District map) for you and your colleagues to make available to those high school students (grades 9-12) who are interested in taking part in this educational experience. This will be an open-book, “take home” quiz, which the students will be allowed to complete and return to you. All quizzes must be mailed to the Bar Association for grading and selection of finalists. They should be postmarked no later than **December 2, 2018**.

Approximately one hundred finalists from around the State will be chosen from those students having the best quiz scores and essays within their State House Districts. One finalist will be chosen from each of the 100 House Districts, if all Districts have contestants submitting. Of course, a school that draws students from different representative Districts could have more than one finalist.

The Committee then will invite the one hundred finalists and their teachers to the Des Moines area for an educational seminar and luncheon on **Friday, January 11, 2019**. From the one hundred finalists, five student winners will be selected through a drawing at the luncheon and will receive an all expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. for themselves and their teachers. It

will be the responsibility of the school to coordinate the time away from classes for the winning students and teachers.

In Washington, D.C., the winning students and teachers will take part in a week-long citizenship education experience put on by the Close-Up Foundation of Washington, D.C. **We appreciate you making your students aware of the “Know Your Constitution” program.** In order to make this a well-rounded learning experience, we encourage you to focus on the United States Constitution at some time during this academic year.

Please note that the teachers who will be invited to Des Moines with the finalists and to Washington, D.C. with the winners, will be those whose names are written on the student’s answer sheet. It is important to determine which teacher or teachers are to give the quiz in your school.

We appreciate your anticipated interest and cooperation in this educational experience. We believe the time you, as a teacher, devote to the “Know Your Constitution” program, will be worthwhile.

We request that you adhere to the time schedule provided above and in the attached rules, and thank you in advance for doing the necessary copying of materials to implement this program. If you have any questions, please email John Wheeler at The Iowa State Bar Association at jwheeler@iowabar.org or call (515) 697-7882.

Please mail all completed quizzes along with the school letterhead to the address below postmarked no later than **December 2, 2018**:

KNOW YOUR CONSTITUTION
The Iowa State Bar Association
625 East Court Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

We, very much, appreciate that you are making your students aware of the “Know Your Constitution” program and thank you for your assistance in causing this program to be such a success.