
MISSION BRIEF

Since the founding of our nation, there have been nearly half a billion American citizens. Of those, over 12,000 of us have served in Congress. Just 115 have become Supreme Court Justices. Only 45 citizens have become President of the United States.

There's something exceptional about each POTUS- good, bad, or otherwise. We want your help to tell the world why... IN ONE-MINUTE OR LESS.

*Choose one of the 45 American Presidents to research, & create a video, one-minute or less, that shares the information you discovered. Use at least one primary source.

Entries will be reviewed by a qualified panel to be considered for awards between \$100-500.



*POTUS BRIEF: Note that though there are 46 administrations, only 45 individuals have been a POTUS. Grover Cleveland (22 and 24) is the only president in U.S. History with two non-consecutive terms.



OPERATION DETAILS:

Students can submit an entry to Project POTUS HQ at judgify.me/projectpotus beginning on Election Day, November 7, 2023. The deadline for contest submissions is 11:59pm on Presidents Day, February 19, 2024. As you begin your research, you may want to...

- Determine the years the President served in office (term/s)
- Identify the political party that nominated the President
- Discover major actions the President took in office
- Were they re-elected/died/denied?
- Find out what your President's personality was like
- Track down primary sources that can tell you more about your chosen POTUS

BE CREATIVE & HAVE FUN!

DECLASSIFIED & APPROVED FOR USE
FOR 2023-4 BY PROJECT POTUS HQ

OFFICIAL CONTEST RULES:

*PROJECT POTUS 2023-4

- 1. ELIGIBILITY: Students in middle school, or the equivalent, are eligible for entry in Project POTUS.** Homeschool and non-traditional students are welcomed and encouraged to participate. Students living in any state in the United States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories (including military bases, embassies, etc.) are eligible to participate and earn awards for Project POTUS submissions.
- 2. To ensure your video is eligible for awards, ensure that your project's run time is ONE MINUTE OR LESS.** If your video exceeds the one-minute mark, it can only be for the inclusion of a source list or reference page with citations. *Any video content that runs past the one-minute mark must be related to crediting sources.*
- 3. One entry per student.** This can be an individual project or a collaborative group project, with a maximum of three students working to submit a project as a group. Whether students are permitted to work in groups or must work individually is at the discretion of their teacher in a classroom setting.
- 4. All entries must be the authentic work of the individual/s submitting to the contest.** If using text or other materials that are not your own, be sure to mention them, list them, or cite them during or at the end of your video. For help with research and citations, check out the resource guide available at projectpotus.org. Students who have participated in Project POTUS in a previous year may enter more than once but may not submit the same project more than once.

5. ****All entries must include & credit at least one primary source.**

Mentioning the source out loud in narration or including a list of sources or citations as a visual at the conclusion of a video are a few valid ways to meet this requirement. Note the definition of primary sources below:

“Primary sources include documents or artifacts created by a witness to or participant in an event. They can be firsthand testimony or evidence created during the time period that you are studying. Primary sources may include diaries, letters, interviews, oral histories, photographs, newspaper articles, government documents, poems, novels, plays, and music.”

Definition from the University of Washington Tacoma Library.

6. **Grammatical or spelling errors & obvious historical errors are grounds for removing entries from awards consideration.**

Please look over your video project before submitting to double check dates, images used, spelling, etc. Historical inaccuracies that come from an otherwise credible source (like the ones recommended on our source guide) will not disqualify a project from consideration for prizes.

7. **Video files must be accessible for download, visible on alternative submission options like Google Drive or YouTube, or otherwise able to be successfully viewed when submitted.**

Any video file entries which are corrupted, unable to be downloaded, or have major issues with sound or imagery display will not be able to be judged and thus will not be eligible for awards in the Project POTUS competition.

Eligible video projects should be uploaded to Judgify, which has a file size limit. If the maximum file size is exceeded, students will not be able to submit an entry without reducing the file size.

Need help? Send us a note at projectpotus@bhpsite.org.

8. Video material including language, audio, and visual content must be respectful. Profanity, references to violence, and derogatory content will disqualify a video from consideration for awards by the Project POTUS jury. As a benchmark, consider what would be appropriate to display in the classroom, according to teachers and school administration.

9. Any copyrighted material used in a Project POTUS submission must fall under fair use rules. ([Click here to learn about the term 'fair use'](#)). If you're still unsure after talking to a teacher or adult whether you're able to use a certain copyrighted material, err on the side of caution and check out [these sources](#) to find music, photographs, video clips, and more that fall within the public domain, and may be freely used.

10. Any entry that does not abide by these rules and the Project POTUS requirements, including using and mentioning or citing at least one primary source, can be *disqualified* at the discretion of the Project POTUS team and will not be considered eligible for awards.

Do you have questions about the video requirements or rules for Project POTUS 2023? Contact Project POTUS HQ for help at projectpotus@bhpsite.org

Project POTUS is a national education initiative for middle school students from the Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site, located in the Historic Old Northside Neighborhood of Indianapolis, Indiana.

For more about the 23rd President, visit PresidentBenjaminHarrison.org.

