



Federal Judges Association

Federal Judges Association *Civics Challenge*

In celebration of Constitution Day, September 17, the Federal Judges Association (FJA) has created an annual “Civics Challenge.” Offered to high-school students across the country, the FJA seeks to increase civic engagement, knowledge of United States history and government, and appreciation for our country’s citizenship process.

Students in grades 9 through 12 will have the opportunity to take the *Civics Test* given to individuals seeking U.S. citizenship. The *Civics Test* is administered to applicants who apply for U.S. citizenship through the naturalization process and is one of the statutory requirements for naturalizing. Applicants must demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals of the history, principles, and form of government of the United States.

The participating teacher should email the **FJA coordinator Susan DeCoursey**, at sdecourcey@msp-amc.com that the students in the class will be participating. The participating teacher should access the study materials and the *Civics Test* for the students (links to materials in **Resources** section below). On September 17 and recognizing Constitution Day until December 31, each participating teacher should provide the students with study materials and discuss the topics. Students can thereafter take the *Civics Test*. The teacher will then grade each *Civics Test* and email FJA coordinator Susan DeCoursey of each student who received a perfect score. Each student who received a perfect score will receive an ‘Excellent Citizen’ certificate for their work and best efforts will be made to invite them to attend a naturalization ceremony nearest where they reside.

CIVICS CHALLENGE RULES:

- 1 Open to any high-school student, grades 9 through 12;
- 2 Any high-school teacher can agree to administer and grade the *Civics Test*;
- 3 The *Civics Test* must be given, graded, and results submitted by the participating high-school teacher to FJA Coordinator Susan DeCoursey by **no later than December 31, 2023**;
- 4 The student must score 100% on the *Civics Test*, as determined by the participating high-school teacher;
- 5 The “Excellent Citizen” certificate will be mailed to the participating high-school teacher;
- 6 A potential opportunity to be invited to attend a federal court naturalization ceremony in your home judicial district in 2024 before a federal judge.

RESOURCES:

The resources and practice tests for each teacher are available on the USCIS site: <https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/find-study-materials-and-resources>

For teachers unfamiliar with a naturalization ceremony, resources include a podcast for teachers.

The Civics Test with 100 Questions and Answers can be found here: <https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/find-study-materials-and-resources/study-for-the-test>

