

National Spanish Exams

Junior Travel Award

Pursuant to its mission, the National Spanish Examination (NSE), a division of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP), is committed to recognizing student achievement and promoting language proficiency in the study of Spanish. To this end, NSE will offer SIX travel awards to Mexico through a commercial study/travel group. This trip will run concurrently with a trip offered by the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica, NSE's sister organization.

ELIGIBILITY

For the 2008 travel award, applicants **MUST**:

- Be a junior in high school during the 2007-2008 academic year
- Have received medal placement by scoring above the 75th percentile on the 2007 National Spanish Examination - Level II or above
- Be registered to take the 2008 National Spanish Examination - Level III or above
- Agree to continue studying Spanish during his/her senior year in high school

NOTE: Only ONE student per school may apply. (Teachers at participating schools must select the applicant from their own school.)

COMMITMENT

1. Applicants must commit to travel between July 20 and August 2, 2008. If a student cannot travel during the specified time, the trip will be forfeited and another student will be chosen. The trip may not be postponed to another year.
2. Upon return from the trip (and no later than August 31), winners will be required to send to the Director of Travel Awards an account of their experiences along with several digital photographs to be published on the NSE website.

Covered costs:

1. travel expenses from the student's home airport to Mexico
2. travel within Mexico
3. hotel stays
4. most meals

Costs NOT covered:

1. transfers from the student's home to the student's home airport
2. passport
3. some meals
4. personal expenses
5. souvenirs and gifts

SELECTION

All applications must be postmarked by February 15, 2008. The proposals will be reviewed in March and the recipient will be notified no later than April 1, 2008.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applicants should fill out the application form and should include with it **the following items** :

1. A standard DVD in Spanish in which you:
 - discuss with your teacher your family, hobbies, interests, and some of the things you would like to visit if you are awarded the trip to Mexico
 - are spontaneous and conversational in tone
(The student should be the dominant speaker.)
 - speak with your teacher a maximum of 5 minutes without stopping the recording

2. One essay in Spanish of no more than two typewritten, double-spaced pages in which you pick one of the following topics:
 - Identify and investigate an aspect of Mexican culture and tell why you would explore this if you had an opportunity to visit the country.
 - Identify one Hispanic personality (living or deceased) with whom you would like to visit and tell what you would like to discuss with him/her.

Sponsor, please sign the essay to certify that it is exclusively student work.

3. High School transcript and list of extra-curricular activities.

4. Two letters of recommendation:
 - Letter one from your current Spanish teacher who should comment on your skills in Spanish and your motivation toward your studies.
 - Letter two from someone who knows you well enough to comment on your ability to get along with others and adapt to unforeseen circumstances.

Mail the completed application by February 15, 2008 to:

Jamise Kafoure
Director of Travel Awards
National Spanish Examinations
4227 Greenway Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46220

For inquiries contact, Jamise Kafoure at jamisekafoure@msdlt.k12.in.us

STUDENT INFORMATION					
Student's Name:					
Street Address:					
City:		State:		Zip:	
Telephone:					
Student's e-mail address:					
I <u>have also</u> / <u>have not</u> (choose one) applied for the Junior Travel Award through the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica					
I am currently enrolled in: (circle one)		Spanish III Spanish IV Spanish V Spanish VI			

SCHOOL & TEACHER INFORMATION					
Name of School:					
Street Address:					
City:		State:		Zip:	
Type of School: (circle one)	Public		Private	Independent	
School telephone:					
Teacher's name:					
Teacher's e-mail address:					
Teacher's AATSP#					

PARENT AUTHORIZATION	
I authorize my son/daughter to travel to Mexico as an award winner of the National Spanish Examinations with NSE staff. While the students will be adequately supervised once they arrive in Chicago, I understand that my son/daughter must travel alone from his/her home airport to Chicago O'Hare where he/she will be greeted by NSE staff at baggage claim.	
Parent's signature	
Date	