

Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India
9, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg, New Delhi

National Online Essay Writing Competition

1. The office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India is organising the second National Online Essay Writing Competition as part of *Audit Diwas* celebrations.

The essay competition aims to make the youth of the country aware of the institution of CAG of India and appreciate the contribution of the CAG in promoting public accountability and good governance. The competition will also give an opportunity for young minds to harness their creativity and express ways in which the institution of the CAG can contribute to good governance.

2. The topic for the online essay competition for the year 2023 is “**Celebrating the resilience of the Indian Democracy and the role of the CAG of India**”.

Participants may write their essay in **either Hindi or English**.

3. The essays will be evaluated separately in English and Hindi. Winners of the competition will be awarded cash prizes as follows:

First prize: ₹30,000

Second prize: ₹20,000

Third prize: ₹15,000

4. There are no charges/registration for participation in the competition.
5. Guidelines for participation in the essay competition are as follows:

5.1. Eligibility:

5.1.1. The online essay writing competition is open to all persons who are **currently enrolled** in a course of study at any institution recognized by any University in India.

5.1.2. The participant should not be more than 25 years old as on 20 July 2023.

5.1.3. Employees of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department shall not be eligible for participating in the competition.

5.1.4. Only one entry from each participant will be considered. In case it is discovered that a participant has submitted more than one entry, all the entries from the participant will be disqualified.

5.2. Length of the essay:

5.2.1. The length of the essay should not exceed 1500 words.

5.3. Language and presentation:

5.3.1. The essay may be written either in English or Hindi.

5.3.2. The essay must be typed in an A-4 size MS word document using Calibri font for English and Mangal font for Hindi, having size 12 with 1.5" spacing.

5.3.3. The essay should reflect original thinking and presentation. Plagiarism or non-conformity to the guidelines will lead to disqualification of the participant. The CAG of India shall not bear any responsibility for copyright violations or infringements of intellectual property carried out by the participants.

5.4. Manner of submission:

5.4.1. The participants would be required to submit **six documents online as attachments in a single e-mail** to the address: essay2023@cag.gov.in. The details of these documents are given in paras 5.4.1.1 to 5.4.1.5. The subject of the e-mail should be written as "CAG's National Online Essay Writing Competition".

5.4.1.1. Participants should send the essays in **MS word docx** - Calibri (English)/Mangal (Hindi) **and pdf format**. The names of both the .docx and .pdf file should be the e-mail id (excluding the domain name) of the participant followed by language (English/Hindi)¹ in which the essay has been written. Essays sent by post will not be considered. Mention of the participant's name/email or other personal details anywhere in the body of the essay will lead to disqualification.

¹ For example, if the e-mail id is abc_123@gmail.com and the essay is written in English, the name of the document will be 'abc_123-english'.

5.4.1.2. A scanned recent colour passport size photograph of the participant in jpg/jpeg format. The name of the jpg/jpeg document should be the e-mail id (excluding the domain name) of the participant followed by '-photo'².

5.4.1.3. A scanned pdf document showing proof of date of birth, such as birth certificate or Class 10th or equivalent mark sheet. The name of the document should be the e-mail id (excluding the domain name) of the participant followed by '-dob'³.

5.4.1.4. A scanned pdf document of the student's ID showing proof of enrolment of the student at the University/educational institution. The name of the document should be the e-mail id (excluding the domain name) of the participant followed by '-id'⁴.

5.4.1.5. A profile sheet in a separate pdf document containing the following particulars.

Name (Mr./Ms.):

Father's/Legal Guardian's name:

Date of Birth:

Age as on 20.07.2023:

Educational qualification:

Name of the University/College/Institution attending:

Name of course enrolled in:

Year of enrolment:

Duration of study: From(year) to(year)

Address for correspondence:

Mobile number:

The name of the pdf document should be e-mail id (excluding domain name) followed by '-profile'⁵.

² For example, if the e-mail id is abc_123@gmail, the name of the jpg/jpeg image will be 'abc_123-photo'.

³ For example, if the e-mail id is abc_123@gmail, the name of the document will be 'abc_123-dob'.

⁴ For example, if the e-mail id is abc_123@gmail, the name of the document will be 'abc_123-id'.

⁵ For example, if the e-mail id is abc_123@gmail, the name of the document will be 'abc_123-profile'.

5.4.2. Failure to provide any of the above documents may lead to disqualification.

5.5. Period of submission:

5.5.1. Essays may be e-mailed on any date from 10:00 hrs on 21 July 2023 to 17:00 hrs on 20 August 2023. Entries received beyond this period will not be considered.

5.6. Evaluation criteria:

5.6.1. The criteria for evaluation of essays will be:

- Originality of thought and depth of knowledge
- Clear reasoning and quality of argument
- Critical analysis
- Structure and writing style

5.7. Evaluation of entries:

5.7.1. The best three essays in each language will be awarded prizes as mentioned in para 3, subject to the conditions mentioned in the scheme.

5.7.2. The decision of the evaluation committee will be final and binding on all the participants.

5.8. Declaration of result:

5.8.1. Results will be published on the CAG's website www.cag.gov.in by **27 October 2023**.

5.9. Prizes for winners:

5.9.1. The prizes will be awarded on **15th November 2023**. Details will be sent to the prize winners separately.

5.9.2. Competition prize winners will be notified of the competition result by e-mail. Reasonable efforts will be made to contact the prize winner for 10 days; if the winner fails to respond to our notification attempts within this time, we reserve the right to disqualify that participant and offer the prize to the next eligible participant and thereafter until a winner is found.

5.9.3. All participants who submit eligible entries that follow the guidelines of the competition shall receive participation certificates in digital format.

5.10. General:

- 5.10.1.** If an entry is found to violate the guidelines, it will be removed from the evaluation process without giving any intimation or explanation to the participant.
- 5.10.2.** The CAG of India shall have an exclusive, royalty-free, perpetual and irrevocable license to copy, store, edit, distribute, transmit and publish competition entries.
- 5.10.3.** We may undertake publicity activities relating to the competition and prize awards. The winners shall agree to the use of their name, photograph and disclosure of region of residence in any post-prize-winning publicity activities.
- 5.10.4.** Any dispute or any issue related to this competition shall be decided by the CAG of India which will be final and binding.
- 5.10.5.** The CAG of India reserves the right to cancel or amend all or any part of the competition/or the guidelines/evaluation criteria etc. at any time without any public notice.