

MPL Family History Writing Contest Scoring Rubric

1. The submission is about a deceased person who lived in, came to, passed through, or died in the State/Territory of Montana.
 - a. Yes – Proceed to #2.
 - b. No – STOP. The submission is disqualified.

2. The submission contains vital data about living people.
 - a. No – Proceed to the scoring rubric.
 - b. Yes – STOP. The submission is disqualified.

		0	1	2	3	4
Research	Thoroughness of research <i>The research goes beyond the person of interest to include family members and/or associates. Relevant jurisdictions and sources are considered. The writer skillfully examines all evidence and comes to sound conclusions.</i>					
	Quality of evidence <i>The writer prioritizes evidence drawn from original sources over derivatives and from primary information over secondary information.</i>					
	Variety of records <i>The writer consults a broad variety of independently created records (e.g., census, church, cemetery, court, immigration, naturalization, land, military, newspaper, probate, tax, vital, etc.)</i>					
	Includes historical context <i>The writer incorporates historical events and social conditions that were relevant to the subject's life.</i>					
	Documentation					
Documentation	Every fact and relationship is documented <i>All statements of fact are accompanied by a source citation in footnote format.</i>					
	Sources are cited fully and consistently <i>The writer follows recommended standards for source citations. Any lapses or inconsistencies are few and minor.</i>					
Writing	Organized and flows logically					
	Clear and easy to understand					
	Mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation)					
	Engaging and interesting					

- 0 – Does not meet requirements
 1 – Minimal
 2 – Fair
 3 – Good
 4 – Excellent