

# Patient First®

## 2008 Student Essay Contest For Chesapeake and Virginia Beach 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

What do motor vehicles, fireworks, playgrounds, household cleaning products, swimming pools, and sports all have in common? They are just a few of the many things that can cause childhood and adolescent injuries and fatalities. Unfortunately, many of these accidents could have been avoided through proper precautionary measures.

• **Prizes:** The Grand Prize of a **Nintendo Wii Game System** will be awarded to the best overall essay. In addition, a First Prize of a **\$250 College Savings Bond** and a Second Prize of a **\$125 College Savings Bond** will be awarded for the top essays of each school that has 15 or more participants. Regardless of school participation level, **all** submitted essays are eligible to win the Nintendo Wii.

Following notification, the parent or guardian must sign a release form to receive their prize. Winners will be notified by June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008. An announcement of winners will also be sent to schools and local media, and the winning essays will be put on Patient First's Web site, [www.patientfirst.com](http://www.patientfirst.com). The winning essay may also receive recognition on radio or on television.

• **Essay Topic:** Write about an "accident" you had or about which you have first-hand knowledge. Then, dream up an invention that would offer protection against this type of accident. In 750 words or fewer, describe your invention. You might want to consider such questions as the following: How would the invention work? What would it look like? Where could you buy it and how much would it cost? What technology would it require?

• **Judging Criteria:** Originality, clarity, creativity, and practicality. Spelling, grammar, and punctuation will be considered.

• **Presentation:** Essay must be typed on 8.5x11-inch white, unlined paper and no more than 750 words. It must be double-spaced and typed in 12 pt. font (if a computer is not available, hand written essays are acceptable). Spelling, grammar, and punctuation will be considered. Pages must be numbered and stapled to a separate cover page that includes:

- Your own essay title
- Student's school name, address, telephone number and teacher's name
- Student's name, grade, birth date, home address, telephone number, and parent or guardian's contact information

The student should turn in the essay to his or her teacher. The teacher will then submit the essays to the designated administrator for each participating school district.

• **Judging Guidelines:** Originality, clarity, and creativity. The judges will be members of the Patient First administrative staff.

• **Participation:** There is no entry fee for this contest. The contest is open to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students as of September 2007. Family members of Patient First employees are not eligible for this contest.

• **Deadline:** Entries must be postmarked by May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and received by May 30<sup>th</sup>. Winners will be notified by June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and prizes will be awarded shortly thereafter.

• **Send entries to:** Ian Slinkman, Patient First, 5000 Cox Road, Suite 100, Glen Allen, VA 23060. Entries may also be e-mailed as a word attachment to: [ian.slinkman@patientfirst.com](mailto:ian.slinkman@patientfirst.com).

• **Questions?** Call Ian Slinkman, Manager of Community Relations at (804) 822-4492 or Jim Schulenberg, Director of Marketing and Public Relations at (804) 822-4367.

For more information about Patient First and our center locations, visit our Web site at [www.patientfirst.com](http://www.patientfirst.com).

