



Kansas Press Association and A-Mark Foundation announce the A-Mark Prize for Investigative Journalism in Kansas with cash awards totaling \$15,000

Investigative reporters are trained to follow the money, but it takes resources to follow the money. That's why the Kansas Press Association and the A-Mark Foundation have created a new \$15,000 cash prize for Kansas reporters and their newsrooms.

First place: \$5,000 for the journalist(s) and \$2,500 to the news organization

Second place: \$3,000 for the journalist(s) and \$1,500 to the news organization

Third place: \$2,000 for the journalist(s) and \$1,000 to the news organization

The A-Mark Prize for Investigative Journalism is open to all journalists and all news organizations in Kansas. The KPA represents the state's newspapers and online news publications. The [A-Mark Foundation](#) is a nonpartisan 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in 1997. A-Mark is dedicated to supporting and encouraging journalism and investigative reporting through grants to organizations that offer awards recognizing journalistic excellence. One of A-Mark's flagship initiatives is the A-Mark Prizes program, which recognizes and rewards the best investigative journalism in each state.

Criteria: This contest recognizes an investigative story or series by a reporter or team of reporters on a single topic. Entries may include a single investigative story or multiple stories over a period of time. Entries should display original reporting revealing information otherwise not generally known that individuals, governmental agencies, businesses, elected officials or organizations do not want under public scrutiny. Judging criteria include depth of research, initiative, obstacles overcome, use of databases and public records, analysis of documents and records, use of multiple sources and impact on public policy. Entries must include a brief letter of explanation describing the actual or potential impact of the report.

Eligibility: This contest is open to all news media organizations based in Kansas and their staff members, including newspapers, broadcast outlets and online news publications. Entries must have been published or aired between Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2025.

How KPA members can compete: First, second and third place winners from all divisions of the 2025 KPA Awards of Excellence Investigative Reporting (3) category will compete alongside Kansas Association of Broadcast member entries for the A-Mark Prize for Investigative Journalism in Kansas. The deadline to enter is Feb. 16, 2026. Upload entries and letters of explanation at <https://newspapercontest.com/Contests/KansasPressAssociation.aspx>. There is no additional fee for KPA members to enter this competition; (3) Investigative Reporting division winners will be automatically entered by KPA.

How Kansas Association of Broadcasters members can compete: KAB members will [upload entries and letters of explanation](#) by Feb. 18, 2026. Each entry is \$15. KAB member entries will compete alongside KPA member entries for the A-Mark Prize for Investigative Journalism in Kansas. <https://forms.gle/wafTAdNco2nbBPew9>

Judging: This contest shall be judged by a committee of retired Kansas newspaper and broadcast journalists.

Winners: Winners will be announced at the Kansas Press Association Annual Convention on June 4-5, 2026.

Contact: Call Emily Bradbury at 785-271-5304 or [email KPA](#) for more details.