

Grades 6-12: **Student** Informational-Explanatory Writing Rubric
Common Core State Standards (CCSS)/NUSD

Score	Establishment of Purpose/Focus and Organization		Development: Language and Elaboration of Evidence		Conventions
	Statement of Purpose/Focus	Organization	Evidence	Language and Vocabulary	
4	Thesis/claim is clear and focused on the topic	The response has great organization and is complete	The response provides complete and convincing evidence for thesis/claim All evidence is cited appropriately	The response clearly and effectively expresses ideas, using content appropriate language	The response has few, if any, errors in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • usage • sentence formation • punctuation • capitalization • spelling
3	Thesis/claim is clear and somewhat focused on the topic	The response has some organization and is mostly complete	The response provides adequate evidence for thesis/claim Most evidence is cited	The response adequately expresses ideas, using a mix of content appropriate and more general language	The response has some errors in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • usage • sentence formation • punctuation • capitalization • spelling
2	Thesis/claim is somewhat clear, but drifts off the topic	The response has little organization, and may be incomplete	The response provides little or poor evidence for thesis/claim Citations may be missing or unclear	The response expresses ideas using general and simple language	The response has many errors in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • usage • sentence formation • punctuation • capitalization • spelling
1	Thesis/claim may be related to the topic, but has little or no focus	The response has no organization and is incomplete	The response provides minimal or no evidence for thesis/claim	The response expresses ideas using very simple, unclear, or confusing language	The response is difficult to understand because of the frequent errors in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • usage • sentence formation • punctuation • capitalization • spelling
0	A response gets no credit if it provides no evidence of ability to write a multi-paragraph informational/explanatory essay.				

*Point of view begins in 7th grade