

## Op-Eds & Letters to the Editor

Opinion pieces in the form of op-eds and letters to the editor are a great way to raise awareness about a problem or policy that is of interest to the readers of a particular news outlet. In the context of public policy advocacy, op-eds and letters to the editor can help lawmakers understand the need for action and build support for a particular course of action among lawmakers' constituents. An op-ed is a short essay articulating an opinion that is authored by a guest contributor. Op-eds are typically 500-750 words in length. Although not every news outlet welcomes op-ed submissions, those that do will have their own stated preferences and requirements regarding the desired length of op-ed submissions. Similar to op-eds, letters to the editor briefly articulate an opinion about a particular issue, typically voiced by a reader in reaction to the news outlet's coverage of that issue. Whereas op-eds tend to be 500-750 words, letters to the editor are usually much shorter—typically in the range of 150-250 words.

### A Good Op-Ed or Letter to the Editor Will:

- Articulate an opinion that is unique, or founded on a uniquely valuable perspective, and well-evidenced.
- Capture and sustain the reader's attention by employing an engaging hook and describing issues in a way that is concise and accessible.
- Be written from the perspective of someone who has credibility on the topic at hand, generally due to their expertise or lived experience.
- Call attention to a problem or issue that is relevant to—even if not necessarily obvious to—the news outlet's audience.
- Be timely, articulating an opinion at a time when that opinion matters, such as when a legislative body is considering a particular bill.

### Major Nebraska Outlets:

Paper	Link
Alliance	<a href="https://alliancetimes.com/category/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/">https://alliancetimes.com/category/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/</a>
Beatrice	<a href="https://beatricedailysun.com/forms/contact/letter_to_the_editor/">https://beatricedailysun.com/forms/contact/letter_to_the_editor/</a>
Blair	<a href="https://www.enterprisepub.com/forms/letters/">https://www.enterprisepub.com/forms/letters/</a>
Columbus	<a href="https://www.dispatch.com/opinion/letters/">https://www.dispatch.com/opinion/letters/</a>
Fremont	<a href="https://fremonttribune.com/forms/contact/letter_to_the_editor/">https://fremonttribune.com/forms/contact/letter_to_the_editor/</a>
Grand Island	<a href="https://theindependent.com/site/forms/online_services/letter/">https://theindependent.com/site/forms/online_services/letter/</a>
Hastings	<a href="https://www.hastingstribune.com/site/forms/online_services/letter_editor/">https://www.hastingstribune.com/site/forms/online_services/letter_editor/</a>
Kearney	<a href="https://kearneyhub.com/submission_forms/letter_to_editor/">https://kearneyhub.com/submission_forms/letter_to_editor/</a>
Lincoln	<a href="https://journalstar.com/forms/contact/letter_to_the_editor/">https://journalstar.com/forms/contact/letter_to_the_editor/</a>
McCook	<a href="https://www.mccookgazette.com/story/1671987.html">https://www.mccookgazette.com/story/1671987.html</a>
Norfolk	<a href="https://norfolkdailynews.com/site/forms/online_services/letter/letter_editor/">https://norfolkdailynews.com/site/forms/online_services/letter/letter_editor/</a>
North Platte	<a href="https://nptelegraph.com/site/forms/online_services/letter_editor/">https://nptelegraph.com/site/forms/online_services/letter_editor/</a>
Omaha	<a href="https://omaha.com/opinion/public_pulse/submit/">https://omaha.com/opinion/public_pulse/submit/</a>
Scottsbluff	<a href="https://starherald.com/site/forms/online_services/letter_editor/">https://starherald.com/site/forms/online_services/letter_editor/</a>
Sidney	<a href="https://www.suntelegraph.com/contact">https://www.suntelegraph.com/contact</a>
Sioux City	<a href="https://siouxcityjournal.com/forms/contact/letter_to_the_editor/">https://siouxcityjournal.com/forms/contact/letter_to_the_editor/</a>
York	<a href="https://yorknewstimes.com/site/forms/online_services/letter/letter_editor/">https://yorknewstimes.com/site/forms/online_services/letter/letter_editor/</a>