



INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL ETHICS

Student Essay Prize - Guidelines for Applicants

- 1 *The prize is open to all current medical students in the UK, including those in their final year of study who will have graduated by the closing date.*
- 2 *Background: Medical students have been encouraged to participate in the NHS response to the coronavirus pandemic. This raises potential ethical, professional and legal issues.*
- 3 *Title of essay: **'The medical student response to the Covid-19 pandemic'**. Submissions on any other topic will not be accepted.*
- 4 *The essay should be about ethical issues raised by your experiences in responding to the pandemic and should be in the form of reflective practice. The judges are looking for well-presented essays that focus on the writer's personal experience of the ethical issues raised and analysed in relation to relevant ethical, professional and legal considerations.*
- 5 *Care should be taken to ensure complete confidentiality of patients, staff and colleagues throughout your work.*
- 6 *The word count limit is 1750, excluding references and title. Times New Roman 12 point font is recommended, with no images or borders. Please include the word count at the end of your essay.*
- 7 *References should be detailed at the end of the essay; maximum of 5 recommended. Harvard or Vancouver styles of referencing will be accepted.*
- 8 ***As the essays will be judged anonymously, please ensure that it does not include any details by which you may be identified.***
- 9 *We are unable to accept handwritten applications.*
- 10 *The marking criteria are given below and can be used as guidance as to the format and content of essays.*
- 11 *Consideration will be given to publishing the winning essays on the IME website.*

- 12 Please submit your essay & application form via the online submission form which can be found at: ime-uk.org/grants-and-competitions/student-essay-competition/
Note allowed file types: pdf, doc, docx, jpg, xls
Please note: Once we have received your submission, you will receive a confirmation email – if you do not receive a confirmation email within one week, please telephone us on 01925 299733 to check your essay and form have been received.
- 13 The closing date for entries is **Sunday 4th of July 2021 at 23.59**. We will be unable to consider essays received after this date.
- 14 Up to 5 prizes of £300 each will be awarded to those submitting the best essays.
- 15 The winners will be notified by email by **1st September 2021** and will receive the prize money in the form of a bank transfer and a certificate shortly afterwards.
- 16 Winning entrants will also be given a year's complimentary student membership for the IME.
- 17 For queries, please email contact@ime-uk.org

Marking Criteria

Marks 1-5 are awarded for general presentation ie use of language, grammar, etc.

Poor - 1 Standard - 2 Good - 3 Very Good - 4 Exceptional - 5

Marks 2-10 are awarded for each of the following areas which reflect the most substantial part of the essay. Please note that particular emphasis will be placed on the ethical analysis of the experience.

1 Description of the student's own experience.

2 Application of academic learning to the experience discussed. This should include ethical analysis, the law and professional guidelines where appropriate. References should be included.

3 Degree of reflection and criticism that integrates ethical analysis, law and professional guidelines.

Poor - 2 Standard - 4 Good - 6 Very Good - 8 Exceptional - 10

Maximum 35 marks