

The American College
of Legal Medicine's
2010

Bioethics Student Writing Competition



The American College of Legal Medicine (ACLM) will present awards for three outstanding original papers written by law or health professions students on topics in Bioethics.

1st Prize – \$1,000

2nd Prize – \$500

3rd Prize – \$250

In addition, the ACLM will pay the costs of travel and lodging for the winner of the 1st prize to present his or her paper at the ACLM Annual Meeting, March 4 - 7, 2010 in Orlando, Florida. Travel and lodging arrangements will be made by the ACLM.

Applicant Criteria

1. All authors must have previously achieved a baccalaureate degree or equivalent from an accredited institution and must be currently enrolled in an accredited law, medical, podiatric, nursing, dental, health science or health care administration program in the United States or Canada.
2. No paper that has been previously published in any form will be considered; however, papers written for scholarly classes will be allowed as long as they have not been published.
3. All papers submitted will receive consideration for publication in the *Journal of Legal Medicine* or other medical legal publications.
4. Authors can submit their papers to only one of ACLM's student writing competitions.

Format

1. The format rules below must be followed exactly. PAPERS THAT DO NOT FOLLOW ALL OF THESE RULES WILL NOT BE GRADED.
2. The paper's length must not exceed 5000 total words. The word count is applicable to the total paper; the words on the title page, footnotes, figures and tables are to be included.
3. All papers are to be submitted in Word document format, using 12 point Times New Roman font for all text. Papers must be typed double-spaced, with one-inch margins and all pages are to be numbered. All citations are to be as footnotes, which should be in 10 point Times New Roman font, single-spaced, and with one-inch margins.
4. The first page must be the cover page, which must include the following information: the author's name and contact information, including a telephone number, email address, and the name of the author's school. The cover page must also contain the final word count obtained from Word. Finally, the author is to state the name of the competition for which the paper is to be considered.
5. At the top of page #2 the author must place the title of the paper all in capitals. After the title, two lines must be skipped and the text of the paper should begin.
6. If table or figures are included, they are to be placed after the text according to the following rules: On the first page after the end of the text, a list of all tables and figures will be provided. Each table and figure will then be placed on a separate page.

Content

1. Papers must contain original work done exclusively by a single author.
2. Papers may relate to research done by the author, and may be submitted to fulfill a course requirement in the author's program of study.
3. Papers may deal with any aspect of Bioethics, that is, with any ethical issues arising specifically within the health care arena in the 21st century. Examples of suitable topics would include the ethical implications of death and dying, reproductive rights, bioterrorism, patient-physician relationship, patient safety, public health, biological sciences, organ donation and allocation, biomedical and behavioral research, and medical genetics. **To be considered for an award, papers must exhibit a strong emphasis on bioethics.**

Judging

1. All papers will be judged by the American College of Legal Medicine Awards Committee and the decision of the judges is final.
2. All prizes may not be awarded in any year in which the ACLM Awards Committee determines that no entry meets the standards of a winning paper.

Papers will be judged in the following areas:

1. Appropriateness of subject matter for the contest.
2. Originality, thoughtfulness.
3. Quality of legal and bioethical, medical, law, dentistry, podiatry, nursing, pharmacy, health science, health care administration, or public health analysis.
4. Quality of writing.
5. Citation of authority/support for arguments

Deadline and Submission

1. The papers must be submitted only via email to info@aclm.org. Papers transmitted or sent in any other form will not be considered for the writing competition.
2. Authors must submit their papers by the end of the business day, **January 11, 2010**. Under no circumstances will any paper be considered unless it is submitted by the deadline and in the required format.
3. Direct questions to:

Bioethics Student Writing Competition
American College of Legal Medicine
Two Woodfield Lake
1100 E Woodfield Road, Suite 520, Schaumburg, IL 60173
Phone: (847) 969-0283 Web: www.aclm.org

\$1,000
awarded to
first place
winner

NOTE: All papers submitted shall become the property of The American College of Legal Medicine (ACLM) until they have been released back to the author. Papers will be considered for publication in any ACLM publication. The release of papers will be completed, by email from the ACLM to the author, by March 31, 2010.