

The American College
of Legal Medicine's
2009

Hoffman 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, February 27- March 1, 2009 in Las Vegas, NV. 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. Papers must be no less than 3,000 words and no more than 5,000 words in length (text), excluding citations, and presented in essay form.
2. Papers must be typed double-spaced, with one-inch margins and all pages numbered.
3. Citations must be typed double-spaced at the end of the paper.
4. Authors must submit two cover pages. The first cover page must list the author's name, the title of the paper, a word count, the author's school, home address, home phone number, email address, and specify "Hoffman Bioethics Student Writing Competition." The second cover sheet must only list the title of the paper and the words "Hoffman Bioethics Student Writing Competition," not the author's name.
5. Papers must be submitted in either Word or Adobe document format. If using Adobe, the two title pages that are described above must be in two separate files in order to facilitate the judging process.
6. **Authors must strictly adhere to ACLM's rules. Any paper that does not comply with ACLM's rules will not be considered for any ACLM writing competition.**

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 9, 2009**. Under no circumstances will any paper be considered unless it is submitted by the deadline and in the required format.
3. Direct questions to:

Hoffman Bioethics Student Writing Competition

American College of Legal Medicine

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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, 2009.