



**American College of Legal Medicine**  
**Hirsh Student Writing Competition in Legal Medicine**  
**CALL FOR STUDENT PAPERS**

The **American College of Legal Medicine (ACLM)** will present the Hirsh Award for the best original student paper on Legal Medicine at its 2024 Annual Conference scheduled to take place at the **San Diego Hyatt Regency Mission Bay Hotel on March 1-3, 2024**.

All students are encouraged to compete, particularly those studying medicine, law, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, podiatry, healthcare administration, public health, or other healthcare fields.

The writer of the winning paper will be presented the **Hirsh Award** and will receive **\$1,000.00, round trip economy airfare to San Diego, 1-night hotel accommodations during the conference, and conference registration** to attend the ACLM 2024 Annual Conference where they will have an opportunity to present their paper, receive their award, and meet with experts in the field of legal medicine. The winning paper will be published in *The Journal of Legal Medicine*, and all other papers entered for the Hirsh Award will receive consideration for publication in *The Journal of Legal Medicine*.

The second-place winner will receive **\$500.00**.

The third-place winner will receive **\$250.00**.

The top three winners will receive **complimentary one-year membership** in the American College of Legal Medicine and will be invited to serve on the 2025 Student Awards Committee.

### **Participation Criteria**

- ❖ Contestants must have received a baccalaureate degree or equivalent from an accredited institution and must be currently enrolled in an accredited medical, law, dental, nursing, podiatric, or other health-related program in the United States or Canada

### **Content of Papers**

- ❖ May deal with any aspect of legal medicine, including medical licensure; regulation of the profession; business aspects of medical practice; liability of physicians, hospitals, & managed care organizations; ethics; bio-pharmaceutical/medical devices; public health law; physician-patient relationships; care of special patients; food and drug law; medical research; forensic science; or the history of legal medicine
- ❖ Must contain the entirely original work of the individual contestant.
- ❖ Can have been submitted for academic credit but cannot have been submitted for publication.
- ❖ May relate to other work done by the author.

### **Format**

- ❖ There is no limit in the length of articles for submission - there is no minimum or maximum words to join the competition.
- ❖ The first page is the cover page with the author's name and contact information and a telephone number, email address and the name of the author's school. It also should have the title "2024 Postdoctoral Student Writing Competition", and the final word count.

- ❖ At the top of page # 2 and onwards the author must place the title of the paper in all capitals.
- ❖ If an author wishes to acknowledge an individual or institution this can be done on the cover page.
- ❖ The author may not have a financial interest directly or indirectly in the material presented and must disclose any other financial conflicts on the last page of the document.
- ❖ All papers must be submitted in MS Word document format using 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, and with one-inch margins. All citations must be footers in 10-point Times New Roman font, single-spaced, and with one-inch margins. All pages must be numbered.

### **Deadline for Submission**

- ❖ **February 8, 2024 11:59 PM** is the deadline for submission of papers
- ❖ Papers must be sent by email to [ACLM2024Posters@gmail.com](mailto:ACLM2024Posters@gmail.com)
- ❖ Only papers sent by email, submitted by the deadline, and in the requested format will be considered.
- ❖ Please direct all questions to [ACLM2024Posters@gmail.com](mailto:ACLM2024Posters@gmail.com)

### **Judging Papers**

- ❖ All papers will be judged in a blinded review process by the Student Awards Committee of the American College of Legal Medicine. The Committee's decisions are final and may not be appealed. Further, the Committee reserves the right not to award prizes if the entries do not meet the standards of a winning paper.
- ❖ The papers will be judged in the following areas:
  - Appropriateness of subject matter
  - Originality and thoughtfulness
  - Quality of writing and depth of analysis
  - Citation authority in support of arguments

### **Legal Medicine**

Legal medicine is the professional and academic discipline that serves as a bridge between the medical and legal fields, ensuring that medical evidence is properly interpreted and presented in legal proceedings. Legal medicine experts can play a crucial role in ensuring the fair administration of justice and the protection of individual rights within the legal system. In essence, legal medicine is a branch of medicine that deals with the application of medical knowledge and techniques to legal matters, particularly in the field of law and criminal justice.

### **The American College of Legal Medicine**

Established in 1960, ACLM is a unique professional society for individuals with joint degrees in law and medicine or dentistry that works to address pressing issues that exist at the intersection of law and medicine. The ACLM is also the representative organization for the field of Legal Medicine within the American Medical Association (AMA). Membership is open to physicians, dentists, other health professionals, and attorneys as well as students who are pursuing degrees in law or medicine. More information is available at our website [American College of Legal Medicine](http://www.aclm.org).

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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 30, 2024**.