

Essay Prize for Foundation Doctors

Guidance and Regulations

1. Eligibility

- 1.1 The competition is open to all those undertaking a UK Foundation Programme (F1, F2) at the time of submission.
- 1.2 Entries are invited on the essay “Which elements of ophthalmology would you embed in the Foundation curriculum?”

2. Essay submission

- 2.1 Candidates must nominate themselves for entry by submitting a short essay on the specified topic to the judging panel. Essays will be marked against the published criteria and the 3 essays with the highest average marks will be awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.
 - 2.2 Essays must be made to the following email address: alex.tytko@rcophth.ac.uk
 - 2.3 Only essays that are submitted via email, in word format to the published email address will be accepted.
 - 2.3.1 Submissions made in PDF format will not be accepted.
 - 2.3.2 Submission over the word count will not be accepted.
 - 2.4 The deadline for submission is **5.00pm Monday 16 November 2015**. Submissions after this time will not be accepted.
 - 2.5 Essays must be up to **1500 words**.
 - 2.5.1 The word limit does not include the published title/questions of reference.
 - 2.5.2 References should be presented as footnotes and endnotes; references presented in alternative formats may be considered to be part of the limit.
 - 2.6 It would be preferred if abstracts were presented in Calibri 12.
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- 3.1 There will be a panel of judges, to be nominated by the Education Committee.
 - 3.2 At all stages the panel will be looking for both clinical and general knowledge of ophthalmology and original critical thinking.
 - 3.3 At all stages, candidates should ensure that they consider the principles of equality and diversity in both their writing and presentation.
 - 3.3.1 The panel will be looking for evidence of thorough understanding of the subject area.

- 3.4 The panel will mark abstracts against the following criteria;
Style of writing
Punctuation, spelling and grammar
Content/understanding
Originality
- 3.5 It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure submission has been received by the College. The Education and Training Department will email to confirm receipt of applications within 5 working days of submission.
- 3.6 The judge's decision is final.

4. The Prize

- 4.1 The winners of 2nd and 3rd place will be presented with certificates and the 1st prize will have free entry into the Royal College of Ophthalmologists Annual Congress 24-26 May 2016 to present work as a poster and will be invited to attend the Admission Ceremony in September 2016.
- 4.2 The winners would be expected to provide the full text of their essay for publication on the College website.
- 4.3 No prize will be awarded if a sufficient standard is not reached.

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