

2018 Essay Prize for OST Trainees

Guidance and Regulations

1. Eligibility

- 1.1 The competition is open to all those currently in an OST programme (OST1 to OST7) and LATs) at the time of submission.
- 1.2 Entries are invited on the essay "A day in the life of an Ophthalmic trainee."

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 2 essays with the highest average marks will be awarded 1st and 2nd prize.
- 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 31 March 2018**. Submissions after this time will not be accepted.
- 2.5 Essays must be up to **2000 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.

3. Judges and judging criteria

- 3.1 There will be a panel of judges, to be nominated by the Training Committee.
- 3.2 At all stages, candidates should ensure that they consider the principles of equality and diversity in their writing and presentation.
- 3.3 The panel will mark abstracts against the following criteria;
 - Style of writing
 - Punctuation, spelling and grammar
 - Content
 - Originality

3.4 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.

3.5 The judge's decision is final. The College will not enter into discussion regarding decisions taken.

4. The Prize

4.1 The results will be announced on the 1st June 2018. 1st and 2nd place prize winners will attend the Admission ceremony on the 7th September 2018. 1st Prize will be £500 and 2nd Prize will be £250.

4.2 The winners would be expected to provide the full text of their essay for publication on the College website.

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