

**Health Law and Policy Program  
Sixth Annual National Health Law Writing Competition**

**2021 Rules and Requirements**

1. Papers must address an issue or issues related to health law and/or food and drug law.
2. Current (academic school year 2020-2021) 2L, 3L, and 4L (evening/part-time) JD and LLM students enrolled in a U.S. law school at the time of paper submission are eligible to participate. [Please note that for those law students who are graduating in December 2020, your paper will only be eligible if you submit it in the portal prior to your December graduation date]. The paper submission portal will open on December 9, 2020.
3. Papers must adhere to the following requirements:
  - a. Endnotes; no footnotes;
  - b. Page length between a minimum of 15 and maximum of 25 pages (*exclusive of the endnotes*);
  - c. One-inch margins;
  - d. 12-point Times New Roman font;
  - e. Double-spaced;
  - f. Blue Book style citations;
  - g. The title of the paper at the top of the first page (no table of contents, cover page, charts, graphs, diagrams or illustrations);
  - h. Page numbers at the bottom of each page; and
  - i. No name or other identifying information on the paper.

4. Only one eligible student may write the submitted paper (i.e., no teams or assistance by others).
5. A student may submit a paper that he/she wrote in connection with law school coursework, provided that the paper is wholly the work product of the student. A student may submit more than one paper.
6. The paper may not have already been published in any manner. Please note, however, that students are permitted to submit a paper that is pending publication, so long as it has not been published as of April 25, 2021. If the paper will be appearing in a publication after April 25, 2021, the student may submit that paper for this competition. In any case, the paper must be wholly the work product of the student.
7. The deadline for submission of the Official Entry Form and the paper (in pdf format) is 11:59 pm Eastern time on Sunday, April 25, 2021 using the on-line entry system found at: <https://www.wcl.american.edu/impact/initiatives-programs/health/competition/>
8. Judges will use the following criteria to evaluate each eligible entry:
  - a. Novelty of Issue
  - b. Depth of Issue
  - c. Depth of Analysis

d. Clarity

e. Quality of Writing

9. Prizes will be awarded to winners: first place (\$2,000), second place (\$1,500), third place (\$1,000) and honorable mention (\$750). The competition prizes are generously sponsored by American University Washington College of Law alumni Shawn Fultz ('15), Katherine Hayes ('02), John Jacob ('93), Joel Michaels ('75), Corrine Parver ('82), and Houeida Saad ('92). A select panel of impartial judges will evaluate the papers and determine the winners, in the panel's sole discretion. The panel reserves the right to decline to award the prizes if not merited by the papers submitted. The panel's decisions are final.
10. Winners will be notified by email on or around June 4, 2021.
11. Winners must submit a Social Security number, a mailing address, and any other documentation that is requested by AUWCL. Students who do not have a Social Security number due to foreign status who otherwise meet the Competition Rules and Requirements are welcome to participate in the Competition but are not eligible to receive the monetary prizes.
12. All students who submit an eligible entry will receive a Certificate of Participation electronically in summer 2021. If feasible, a hardcopy of the certificate will be mailed to the address provided on the entry form.
13. The *WCL Health Law and Policy Brief* will have the opportunity to consider publication of the winning papers, but publication is

not guaranteed. The *WCL Health Law and Policy Brief* may also consider publication of other submitted papers.

14. These Rules and Requirements may be clarified or modified at any time prior to the Competition deadline. Please check the Competition webpage for updates.

**Any paper that fails to meet all aspects of the Rules and Requirements will be disqualified. These criteria will be strictly enforced.**